



Daily Report

East Asia

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Japan

Seven Killed in U.S. Marines Helicopter Crash

OW2506073888 Tokyo KYODO in English 0716 GMT
25 Jun 88

[Text] Matsuyama, June 25 KYODO—A U.S. Marine helicopter crashed just 1.5 kilometers away from a nuclear plant in Ehime Saturday, killing all seven people on board, police said.

The helicopter, a CH-53 based in Okinawa, left Iwakuni Base at 9:54 a.m. with seven people aboard en route to the U.S. Marine base in Futenma in Okinawa, the U.S. military said.

Police in Ikata, the site of the crash, said they have recovered the bodies of all seven aboard.

The site of the crash was about 1.5 kilometers away from the Ikata nuclear power plant in southern Shikoku.

Aircraft in Japan are banned to fly over nuclear power plants.

Defense Agency officials in Tokyo said the U.S. military have agreed to observe the Japanese aviation regulation and there was no irregularity in the flight path taken by the ill-fated helicopter.

The crash was first reported at around 11 a.m. by a local resident who told police he found debris apparently from a crashed helicopter in the mountains of Ehime.

Visibility was reportedly poor in the region because of heavy fog and rain.

Another U.S. military CH-53 helicopter, also on a flight from Iwakuni to Futenma, crashed into the East China Sea near the Tanegashima Island on May 6 1980, killing 17 people aboard.

The CH-53, manufactured by Sikorsky, is a large multipurpose helicopter with a capacity to carry up to 60 fully armed soldiers.

Trade Ministers Differ on Subsidies

OW2406161988 Tokyo KYODO in English 1547 GMT
24 Jun 88

[By Shiro Yoneyama]

[Text] Brainerd, Minnesota, June 24 KYODO—Trade ministers of the United States, Japan, Canada and the European Community differed sharply over subsidies for agriculture and other industries on the third and final day Friday of a three-day meeting here.

U.S. Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter is placing special emphasis on the subject which figured prominently but made little progress at the Toronto economic summit earlier this week.

Also on the agenda Friday were the special needs of developing countries under new multilateral trade negotiations known as the "Uruguay round," launched two years ago.

Hajime Tamura, Japan's international trade and industry minister, said industrialized countries like Japan and the U.S. should be prudent in dealing with newly industrializing economies (NIEs) and developing countries.

But the U.S., which has announced a decision to terminate preferential treatment of Taiwan, South Korea, Singapore and Hong Kong from January 1989, prevailed at the quadrilateral talks here, securing broad agreement on encouraging the four Asian "tigers" or "dragons" to graduate from the status of developing countries in need of special protection by the industrial West.

The dispute over subsidies mainly concerns agriculture, although U.S. officials said they are also concerned about Japan's alleged officially funded targeting policy.

Willy de Clercq, the EC commissioner who attended the seven-nation economic summit in Toronto, said Thursday the 12-nation EC foresees progress in talks on farm subsidies under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) over the next six months.

Tamura and other Japanese delegates to the Brainerd conference were in no mood to trade punches with their U.S. counterparts because the issue does not fall under their jurisdiction.

The U.S. wants to end agricultural subsidies—25 billion dollars a year in the U.S. alone—by the year 2000.

But both the 12-nation EC and Japan are in favor of merely reducing them, citing the need for protection of large numbers of small farmers.

During the Friday morning session capping three days of talks at a hotel by Gull Lake, the Japanese proposed a "building bloc" approach toward safeguards, a conference source said, without elaboration.

As expected, the U.S. pressed for an end to farm subsidies and said the existing subsidy code should be rewritten.

Officials said the EC disputed the U.S. stand, defending the code which was written as part of the Tokyo round of multilateral trade negotiations held 1973-79.

The U.S. was particularly critical about the Airbus project by a European consortium, an official said.

U.S. Beef, Oranges Expected 'To Flood' Markets
*OW2706050888 Tokyo KYODO in English 0313 GMT
27 Jun 88*

[Text] Tokyo, June 27 KYODO—U.S.-produced beef and oranges are expected to flood Japanese supermarkets in the upcoming summer "gift season" sales campaign, against the backdrop of the bilateral agreement on Japan's import liberalization measures, according to retail industry sources.

Daiei Inc., Japan's largest supermarket operator, will more than double its purchases of U.S. beef this summer sale over last year's 395 tons. It will buy 200 ton of oranges, up 30-40 percent from last summer.

The nationwide supermarket chain operator will sell roast beef at 298 yen per 100 grams, discounted by more than 100 yen from the usual price tag of about 400 yen, and oranges at 68 yen each, reduced more than 40 percent from 128 yen.

Another major supermarket operator, Seiyu Ltd., Also is expected to sell a total of 600 tons of American beef and some 270 tons of oranges at a 30 percent discount at American food fairs it plans in the period between July and August.

Tamura Signs U.S. Marketing Project
*OW2606072188 Tokyo KYODO in English 0445 GMT
26 Jun 88*

[By Shiro Yoneyama]

[Text] Washington, June 25 KYODO—The United States and Japan announced Saturday the launching of a practical project to promote sporting goods and other competitive U.S. products to the Japanese market.

The project, "Market Japan—With America's Best," was jointly announced by U.S. Commerce Secretary William Verity and Hajime Tamura, Japan's international trade and industry minister, at a press conference here.

Saying the joint initiative marks a first step toward correcting the chronic trade imbalance between the two countries, Verity said he will start meeting with U.S. industry leaders next week to encourage them to sell sporting goods and leisure products, furniture, jewelry, processed foods and pet food to Japan.

"This list represents just a few of the world class products the U.S. can supply to Japan," Verity said in a statement announcing the Tamura-Verity initiative or "T-V" project for short. "The Japanese consumer is finally coming into his own.

"And he wants a choice to buy the best product at the lowest price," the commerce secretary said. "And for our part, we want the Japanese consumer to buy America's best."

Tamura said the project, which resulted from his talks with Verity in Tokyo last November, does not set a specific sales target but will be expanded in the near future.

The U.S. exported some 1.56 billion dollars worth of sporting goods, leisure products, furniture, jewelry, processed foods and pet food to Japan in 1987.

Verity said the U.S. first drew up a list of some 20 categories of products, including value-added items. The two countries, however, settled for a smaller and less controversial list.

At the press conference, Tamura said, "Now is the best possible opportunity" for U.S. companies to make a full-scale entry into the Japanese market because of the weak dollar, which makes their products more competitive and fuels and expansion of domestic demand in Japan.

The Japanese minister said many small and medium American companies so far have failed to aggressively market their products in Japan by offering goods which meet the needs of Japanese consumers.

Verity said that obtaining direct access to the Japanese consumer is the biggest hurdle due to Japan's distribution system, and that high quality and low priced products such as the goods on the list will help to improve the standard of living of Japanese.

The T-V initiative calls for Tamura's MITI to provide the U.S. with data on Japanese buyers and help it to move U.S. products directly to Japanese consumers.

"Where we encounter hurdles, MITI will help clear them away," Verity said. "Our progress will be watched closely by business in both countries to see if we can translate the improved exchange rates and market access commitments into dollars and cents for business and new choices for Japanese consumers."

Japanese and U.S. officials said the Trade Facilitation Committee, a joint MITI/Commerce group, will run the new project in cooperation with Japanese trading houses and banks.

Tamura said he and Verity will discuss their initiative during Verity's trip to Japan in September.

After the end of the press conference, Verity presented Tamura with samples of American-made shovels and other garden tools.

Contract on Aegis Sale Signed With U.S.
OW2406061888 Tokyo KYODO in English 0535 GMT
24 Jun 88

[Text] Tokyo, June 24 KYODO—Japan and the United States on Friday signed a contract on the U.S. sale to Japan of an Aegis sophisticated air defense system, the Defense Agency said.

The contract is worth 468 million dollars or about 63.2 billion yen, officials said.

The Aegis system is capable of detecting and striking at enemy aircraft, missiles and other flying objects instantaneously.

Under the current five-year defense buildup plan (fiscal years 1986-1990), the Defense Agency plans to place an order for a 7,000-ton class Aegis destroyer in fiscal 1988 and another one in fiscal 1990.

The system which Japan agreed to buy Friday will be fitted to the first Aegis ship, which will go into service in fiscal 1992. The second ship will enter service in fiscal 1994.

The Defense Agency will shortly place an order with Mitsubishi Heavy Industries Ltd. to build the first of the Aegis destroyers, agency sources said.

Government To Normalize Relations With Panama
OW2406152488 Tokyo KYODO in English 1423 GMT
24 Jun 88

[Text] Tokyo, June 24 KYODO—Japan will restore normal diplomatic relations with Panama, which is under the virtual control of strongman Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega, a top-level Foreign Ministry official said Friday.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, told reporters that Japanese Ambassador to Panama Teruyuki Sawai met Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Abadia Arias Thursday to convey the Japanese Government's intention to effect a rapprochement with the administration of President Manuel Solis Palma.

The Japanese Government has been taking a negative attitude toward recognizing the Solis regime since he was sworn in as acting president in late February after the National Assembly ousted then President Eric Arturo Delvalle.

Japan has banned its envoy from meeting high-ranking Panamanian officials in view of the United States economic sanctions against the Solis government backed by Noriega, who has been accused by the U.S. of international trafficking in narcotics.

The Japanese Government decided to revive normal relations with the Solis regime because it was set up in accordance with the Panamanian Constitution and has since been exercising control over the country, according to the official.

The official said Tokyo gave prior notice to Washington about a change in its diplomacy toward Panama.

The government will study further policy measures toward Panama, including economic cooperation, when Sawai temporarily returns to Tokyo next month, the official added.

Japan provided Panama with some 200,000 dollars in emergency aid in May through the International Red Cross from the humanitarian point of view.

Takeshita Returns, Due To Visit Australia
OW2606105088 Tokyo KYODO in English 1034 GMT
26 Jun 88

[Text] Tokyo, June 26 KYODO—Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita returned home Sunday from an 11-day trip which took him to Toronto, Chicago and Hawaii.

Five days later on Friday, Takeshita is scheduled to start a five-day visit this time to Australia, which is marking the bicentennial of its founding.

This will be Takeshita's seventh overseas trip since coming to power last November.

Takeshita plans at least two more overseas trips later this year, one to China in late August and the other to South Korea for the September 17 opening ceremony of the Seoul Olympics.

The prime minister led a Japanese delegation at the Toronto summit of seven major industrial democracies June 19-21. Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno, Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and International Trade and Industry Minister Hajime Tamura accompanied Takeshita at the summit.

He stopped in Chicago on his way home to give a speech on June 22 as part of Japan festival events there and then flew to Maui Island, Hawaii to take a two-day rest.

Takeshita Sees Tax Reform as Major Goal
OW2406142188 Tokyo KYODO in English 1018 GMT
24 Jun 88

[Text] Maui, Hawaii, June 23 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita said here Thursday that he is betting his political life on achievement of a sweeping tax reform plan as proposed by his Liberal Democratic Party.

Takeshita, meeting a limited number of Japanese reporters at Maui Prince Hotel, said the government will prepare tax reform bills in the week starting July 11, a hint that the Diet (parliament) will be convened in an extraordinary session on July 18.

On June 14, the LDP announced a set of tax plans which calls, among other things, for imposing a three-percent indirect tax, called a consumption tax, on April 1, 1989.

The government was earlier reported bent a convening the Diet in mid-July for a 100- or 120-day extraordinary session for discussions on tax reform bills.

Takeshita said the government will table bills not only concerning tax reforms but also on relief measures for farmers to offset the impact from Japan's liberalization of beef, oranges, orange juice and other farm produce.

The prime minister said tax debates in the Diet would lead to public understanding and support for a tax reform, and pledged a thorough effort to dispel public worries about the new indirect tax.

Takeshita arrived here from Chicago earlier Thursday after attending the Toronto summit of seven major advanced democracies June 19-21.

He is due to return to Tokyo Sunday after a two-day rest on Maui Island.

LDP's Abe on Reform Plan

OW2706074488 Tokyo KYODO in English 0603 GMT
27 Jun 88

[Text] Tokyo, June 27 KYODO—Ruling Liberal Democratic Party Secretary General Shintaro Abe told Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita on Monday that he is staking his political life as the LDP's secretary general on pushing through a sweeping tax reform plan.

Abe told reporters that he made the remark in a 30-minute tete-a-tete meeting with the prime minister after a meeting of senior government and LDP officials at the prime minister's official residence.

Takeshita also said on Thursday in Hawaii that he is staking his political life on the tax reform.

The LDP secretary general said he exchanged views with Takeshita on handling of the tax reform plan.

The LDP announced a tax reform package on June 14, which calls for introduction of a 3-percent indirect tax and implementation of 5.6 trillion yen tax cut.

The government is expected to convene an extraordinary Diet session in mid-July to discuss the tax reform bills.

Abe quoted the prime minister as saying at the meeting of senior government and LDP officials that he is consulting with Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on the tabling of bills at the extraordinary Diet session for relief measures for farmers to offset the impact from Japan's liberalization of beef, oranges and orange juice imports.

Defense Chief To Tour Indonesia, Singapore

OW2706103388 Tokyo KYODO in English 0805 GMT
27 Jun 88

[Text] Tokyo, June 27 KYODO—Defense Agency Director General Tsutomu Kawara embarks on an eight-day tour to Southeast Asia Wednesday and will reassure leaders in the region that Japan will never become a major military power, defense agency officials said Monday.

Kawara is scheduled to meet with Indonesia's President Suharto and Defense Minister Gen. Benny Murdani in Jakarta Thursday and Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew and Defense Minister Goh Chok Tong in Singapore on Saturday.

Kawara, minister of state for defense, will tell the Southeast Asian leaders that Japan's defense buildup policy will never lead to a Japanese role in the region, the officials said.

He will be the first Defense Agency chief since the end of World War II to visit Southeast Asia.

While Kawara is visiting Indonesia and Singapore, Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno will be attending a meeting July 7-9 in Bangkok with foreign ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), which links Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

There still is a persistent sense of wariness among Asians toward Japan, which once invaded China and controlled the southern Pacific islands before and during the war, defense experts said.

Japan has beefed up its air and sea defense capabilities, committing itself to protecting maritime transportation lines or sea-lanes of up to 1,000 miles from Japan's two major business centers of Tokyo and Osaka areas.

In December 1986, the government scrapped a decade-long policy of holding down Japan's defense spending to below 1 percent of gross national product (GNP).

According to a Japanese Foreign Ministry survey conducted in ASEAN member countries last year, 21 percent of Indonesians and 29 percent of Singaporeans surveyed said they expect Japan will become a major military power.

Kawara will also have an opportunity to meet with local uniformed officers who once studied at Japan's National Defense Academy in a bid to gain their support for Japan's defense policy, the Defense Agency officials said.

The defense minister further hopes to discuss with the Southeast Asian leaders Soviet military moves in North-east and Southeast Asia, particularly in Indochina, Defense Agency sources said.

Kawara assumed the defense portfolio last November following the inauguration of the cabinet of Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita.

Kawara is scheduled to stay in Indonesia June 29-July 1 and in Singapore July 1-4. He will return home on July 6 after making a rest stop in Hong Kong.

Speculation on Defense Role

OW2706042888 Tokyo KYODO in English 0221 GMT
27 Jun 88

["Defense Chief's First S.E. Asia Visit Prompts Speculation" (By Yutaka Negishi)—KYODO headline]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, June 27 KYODO—Japanese Defense Agency Chief Tsutomu Kawara leaves for a visit to Indonesia and Singapore this week amid speculation that Japan may boost its military presence in the Asia-Pacific region in the future.

It will be the first visit to the two countries, which were Japanese colonies during World War II, by a Japanese cabinet minister and director general of the Defense Agency since the end of the war in 1945.

Kawara departs Wednesday and is due to return home via Hong Kong on July 6.

In anticipation of Japan's growing regional security role, Sheldon Simon, a professor at Arizona State University, said during a lecture here, "public opinion polls in Japan demonstrate that the notion of its military serving in an extended defensive capacity is indeed increasingly acceptable to the Japanese."

He quickly added, however, "(this is acceptable only) as long as that capacity is clearly defensive in nature and does not include force projection capability."

Simon, an expert on security affairs in Asia, said the attitude of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) toward such a military capability of Japan is still "ambivalent" though it is becoming "more positive."

"Over the next several years," Simon went on to say in the recent lecture session here, "the ASEAN states will accept the notion of Japanese forces deploying down to the Bashi Channel (between Taiwan and the Philippines)."

Indonesia and Singapore both belong to ASEAN, which also includes Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines and Brunei.

Kawara will be visiting Jakarta Wednesday through Friday for talks with his Indonesian counterpart Gen. Benni Murdani and President Suharto.

In Singapore, Kawara is scheduled to meet Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister Goh Chok tong during a three-day stay from Friday.

The two countries, together with Malaysia, jointly supervise the Strait of Malacca, a narrow strip of water through which tankers carry almost a half of Japan's total crude oil imports from the Gulf region.

The waterway is often described as Japan's lifeline.

While Simon said Japan will have an "extremely impressive" air force and antisubmarine naval capability by 1990, a senior Malaysian researcher foresees that Japan is going to put "a lot more effort" into the protection of sea-lanes in the 1990s.

"(Japan) will have a very substantial conventional (military) capability by 1990," added the researcher, Muthiah Alagappa, senior fellow at the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS), a Malaysian Government think tank.

Defense of sea-lanes extending 1,000 miles off Japan's coast is a key element of the country's security policy.

When announced in 1981 by then Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki, the defense policy caused concern among some ASEAN countries because it was regarded as expansion of Japan's military activity into the region.

The Philippines, the northernmost ASEAN country, is located 1,600 kilometers (860 miles) south of Japan's major southern island of Kyushu.

Kawara's trip to the region coincides with hot debates in the Philippines' parliament over the future of the two major U.S. military installations there, Subic Bay Naval Base and Clark Air Force Base, both near Manila.

The United States and the Philippines are currently reviewing their bases accord which runs out in 1991.

If the United States is forced to withdraw the bases as favored by a majority of Philippine senators, Simon said in the lecture meeting, Japan would do as much as it could to minimize the damage. He did not elaborate.

Commenting on a possible U.S. military pullout from the Philippines, Muthiah said if this happened the Japanese would become much more concerned with the

security of Southeast Asia, a major supplier of oil, natural gas, timber and other raw materials. The region is also a large market for Japanese manufactured goods.

Though ruling out the possibility that Japan might become military involved in Southeast Asia even in the event of a pullout of the two U.S. bases from the Philippines, the Malaysian researcher said, "I think quite a number of people (in Southeast Asia) expect Japan to become a military power."

"I think it's increasingly difficult to envision an economic superpower to rely on another country to defend itself," he added in an interview with KYODO News Service.

"How long can this situation continue?"

"On one side, it looks quite logical that Japan will eventually become a military power, but at the same time, when you look at the steps to be taken to become a military power, I think there are a large number of steps and many, many problems," he added.

The *BUSINESS TIMES*, Malaysia's leading financial newspaper, last week printed a lengthy analysis of Kawara's upcoming visit to Indonesia and Singapore under a six-column headline reading: "Japanese Military Buildup Inevitable."

Indeed, the rate of increase in Japan's defense spending has been larger than that of the overall state budget for the past several years. It rose 5.2 percent this year, compared with 4.8 percent for the latter.

Foreign Minister Uno Pays Visit to Israel

For coverage of Foreign Minister Uno's visit to Israel including talks with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir see the Israel section of the 27 June Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Red Army Denounces Visit

NC2606085188 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0800 GMT 26 Jun 88

[Text] In a statement distributed in Beirut, the Japanese Red Army organization has strongly condemned Japanese Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno's visit to Israel today.

The statement, which was delivered to a western news agency, said the visit is aimed at promoting Japan's relations with the Zionists to weaken the Palestinian people's uprising and to support Zionism, which is experiencing a crisis.

North Korea

Rallies, Speeches Mark Anti-U.S. Struggle Day

Kim Pong-chu at Sinchon Rally

SK2706121088 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
0900 GMT 23 Jun 88

[Text] On the occasion of the 25 June anti-U.S. imperialist struggle day, a rally of workers and trade union members from across the country was held in Pamnamgolgol, Sinchon County, on 22 June to expose and denounce the atrocities of the U.S. imperialists. At the rally site, slogans and posters were put up that read "Down with the U.S. imperialist aggressors, the sworn enemy of the Korean people"; "Down with No Tae-u, the murderous villain"; "Let us expel the U.S. imperialists and reunify the country"; and "Let us all work hard in the 200-day campaign." The rally site was filled with thousands of workers and trade union members.

Present at the rally were Comrade Ho Chong-suk, secretary of the WPK Central Committee; Kim Pong-chu, chairman of the GFTUK Central Committee; Yu Hochun, director of the Secretariat of the DFRF Central Committee; responsible functionaries of the local party, power organ, administrative, economic, and working people's organizations; and workers and trade union members from across the country.

The rally began with the playing of the national anthem. The first speaker at the rally was Kim Pong-chu, chairman of the GFTUK Central Committee.

[Begin Kim Pong-chu recording] Comrades: We now observe the 25 June Anti-U.S. Imperialist Struggle Day in a magnificent environment in which all workers across the country are vigorously accelerating the 200-day campaign, upholding the militant task set forth by the letter and slogans of the party Central Committee; and in which the South Korean people are more vigorously than ever before waging the anti-U.S. struggle for independence and the antifascist struggle for democratization.

On the occasion of this day, we have gathered here in Sinchon, the land of rage, to expose and denounce to the world the crime committed historically in our country by the U.S. imperialist aggressors, the sworn enemy of the Korean people, with an endless curse, and burning feelings of enmity toward them.

The history of the U.S. imperialists' aggression against Korea, which continued for more than 100 years, is the criminal history of wanton infringement upon Korean independence and sovereignty and is a cursed history of manslaughter, in which they plundered the natural resources of our country and bestially massacred the Korean people. The U.S. imperialist aggressors, who have continually perpetrated armed invasion against Korea beginning as much as 100 years ago, provoked a

war of aggression against our people on 25 June 1950, after accelerating war preparations from the first day of the occupation of the south of our fatherland. They wore the mask of a liberator, with the ambition of gobbling up all of Korea.

The war of aggression that the U.S. imperialists waged in Korea was a criminal war of the most vicious and cruel carnage, unprecedented even in their crime-filled war history. The U.S. imperialist aggressors, in an illusive attempt to destroy our young republic in its infancy, immersed the entire northern half of the republic in a sea of fire and mobilized enormous troops of some 2 million men and numerous means of war and even 15 countries that followed.

The most vicious crime committed by the U.S. imperialists during the Korean war was the massive barbarous massacre of the Korean people. Our people clearly remember the manslaughter which the devilish, murderous U.S. imperialists committed here in Sinchon. The U.S. imperialist vampires, who are brought up in the man-hating idea and with a man-eaters' nature, brutally slaughtered 35,000 patriots and people here in Sinchon, including burning to death some 1,600 patriots and pregnant women and some 300 children by putting them into air-raid shelters and spilling gasoline over them.

The U.S. imperialist jackals committed a horrible, barbarous murder unheard of in war history wherever: their aggressive steps led them and committed the unpardonable savage crime of randomly firing germ bombs, napalm bombs, and even toxic gas, thus trampling on the publicly acknowledged international (?rule).

The barbarous destruction and carnage committed by the U.S. imperialist aggressors in this land during the Fatherland Liberation War are unpardonable forever, and the misfortune and pain that our people suffered defy description. The U.S. imperialist aggressors are the most vicious murderous ring of the 20th century and the sworn enemy with whom we cannot live under the same sky.

On this occasion when we condemn the crime of the U.S. imperialist aggressors, in the name of the tens of thousands of parents and brothers who fell with a grudge in their hearts because of the U.S. imperialist jackals, we sternly condemn and denounce the U.S. imperialists for the brigandish plunders and barbarous murders that they committed in the land of our fatherland, joining the voice of curse and surging indignation of all the workers across the country. [end recording]

The speaker noted that under the wise leadership of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the ever-victorious, iron-willed, sagacious general and great military strategist, our people and the People's Army joined their efforts as one and defeated the U.S. imperialist aggressors and achieved the historic victory in the Fatherland Liberation War.

He noted that the U.S. imperialist aggressors, who knelt down before the Korean people in the miserable plight of the defeated, are engaged in maneuvers for a new war provocation and exposed the U.S. imperialists, having deployed some 1,000 nuclear weapons in South Korea, as accelerating preparations for a war of aggression according to a new offensive strategy for northward invasion. He continued: [Begin Kim Pong-chu recording] The U.S. imperialists should stop such foolish maneuvers as backing up the traitor No Tae-u in an attempt to find a way out of the crisis in their colonial rule, which is shaking at its very root. They should immediately withdraw from South Korea, taking along all their aggressive troops and lethal weapons. The No Tae-u fascist clique should listen to the voice of the South Korean students and the people from all walks of life and should step down from power without delay as they demand.

If the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets do not squarely face reality but instead follow the road of war and division, they will be subjected to a hundred-fold and thousand-fold retaliation.

Today we have an urgent task of expelling the U.S. imperialists from South Korea, realizing national sovereignty on a national basis, and reunifying the country. To accelerate the historical task of reunifying the country, we should, above all, further strengthen the force of our revolution. All workers should unite around the great leader and the dear leader comrade more firmly, prepare themselves firmly to be true chuche-type revolutionaries, and become (?fighters) and shields defending and protecting the great leader and the dear leader comrade politically and ideologically at the cost of their lives in whatever environment they are placed. [chanting of slogans and applause] [end recording]

Pyongyang Rally Swears Revenge

SK2506115488 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
1011 GMT 25 Jun 88

["Thousand-fold Revenge on U.S. Imperialism Sworn"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 25 (KCNA)—Revengers' forum denouncing the U.S. imperialist aggressors, the sworn enemy of the Korean people, took place at the Ponghwa art theatre on June 24 on the occasion of "June 25, day of struggle against U.S. imperialism."

It brought together thousands of youths and students and members of youth and student delegations and visiting groups of the General Association of Korea Residents in Japan (Chongnon) staying in the socialist homeland.

The rostrum was taken by those who experienced the U.S. imperialists' atrocities—Kim Myong-kum who underwent all manner of bestialities of the U.S. imperialists, locked up in the powder storage in the Chestnut Valley in Wonam-ri, Sinchon County, South Hwanghae

Province, old Chong Ik-kun in Suan County, North Hwanghae Province, who had a narrow escape from death on an execution ground after being subjected to all kinds of tortures and humiliation, arrested by Americans, and Kim Song-chin who came over to the North from South Korea.

They earnestly appealed to the entire nation to rise up and drive away the U.S. imperialists and achieve the reunification of the country and expressed their firm determination to take revenge upon the enemy of the nation and reunification and dedicate themselves to the noble cause of reunification.

At the end of the speech of each of them, representatives of the working youth, young farmers and students stepped on to the rostrum to swear revenge.

While hearing the vivid stories stripping naked the U.S. imperialists the enemy as barbarians and wolves, not human beings, the hearts of the young people were fiercely aflame with bitter hatred and revengeful thought against them, they said.

Solemnly warning that if the U.S. imperialists dared invade our land again, they would meet destruction at the hand of the revengers who would rise up like giants, those representatives evinced their firm resolve to effect a new upswing in production, construction and study in the spirit of beating the enemy.

Rallies Held 24 June

*SK2706115488 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
0400 GMT 25 Jun 88*

[Excerpts] Mass meetings and mass rallies were held yesterday in the cities of Pyongsong, Wonsan, Kaesong, and Simpo and in Chonchon, Yontan, and Kwail Counties on the occasion of the 25 June day of struggle against the U.S. imperialists. [passage omitted]

A mass rally in Pyongsong City was attended by Comrade So Yun-sok, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau, responsible secretary of South Pyongan Provincial party committee, and chairman of the South Pyongan Provincial People's Committee; Kim Ui-son, chairman of the Administrative and Economic Guidance Committee of South Pyongan Province; responsible functionaries from local party, government, and administrative and economic organs; responsible functionaries from local public organizations; heroes; labor innovators; and standard-bearers of the three revolutions teams, together with the working people of the city. [passage omitted]

A mass rally in Wonsan City was attended by Yim Hyong-ku, responsible secretary of the Kangwon Provincial Party Committee and chairman of the Kangwon Provincial People's Committee; Nam Yong-nam, chairman of the Administrative and Economic Guidance

Committee of Kangwon Province; responsible functionaries from local party, government, and administrative and economic organs; responsible functionaries from local public organizations; heroes; labor innovators; and standard bearers of the three revolutions teams, together with more than 50,000 working people of the city. [passage omitted]

A mass rally in Kaesong City was attended by Kim Ki-son, responsible secretary of the Kaesong City Party Committee and chairman of the Kaesong City People's Committee; Han Kwang-nim, chairman of the Kaesong City Administrative and Economic Guidance Committee; Major General Yi Tae-ho, senior member of our side to the MAC; responsible functionaries from local party, government, and administrative and economic organs; responsible functionaries from local public organizations; heroes; labor innovators; and standard-bearers of the three revolutions teams, together with the working people of the city. [passage omitted]

Mass Rallies Held 25 June

*SK2506052188 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0511 GMT 25 Jun 88*

[Text] Pyongyang June 25 (KCNA)—Mass rallies and demonstrations were held in Pyongsong, Wonsan and Kaesong Friday on the occasion of "June 25, day of struggle against U.S. imperialism."

The rallies were addressed by leading officials of administrative and economic organs and representatives of various strata.

The speakers recalled that the U.S. imperialist aggressors provoked a brigandish war of aggression against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea when it was young on June 25, 1950, 38 years ago.

Denouncing the beastly massacre committed by the U.S. imperialist aggressors during the Korean war, they said the danger of war is daily growing, not a durable peace, on the Korean peninsula.

They noted that the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u puppet clique, persisting more tenaciously in their manoeuvrings against reunification and peace, ordered the puppet administrative organs and all repressive tools across South Korea to enter into a "state of emergency" and are brutally suppressing South Korean students and people.

A bright prospect for the country and the nation is unthinkable with the South Korean military fascist clique left alone, who are making a desperate bid to keep Korea divided into two forever, fawning upon the U.S. imperialists and crying for "single channel of dialogue," the speakers declared. They demanded that the No Tae-u group step down from power promptly, complying with the unanimous will and demand of the entire Korean people in the North and the South. They appealed to all

the fellow countrymen in the North and South and overseas to fight more staunchly for the earliest possible accomplishment of the historic cause of national reunification by the united strength of the whole nation.

The rallies were followed by mass demonstrations.

Rally Held at Art Theater

SK2706112188 *Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean*
0700 GMT 25 Jun 88

[Excerpts] A meeting of revengers was held yesterday afternoon at the Ponghwa art theater to condemn the U.S. imperialists on the occasion of the 25 June day of struggle against the U.S. imperialists. [passage omitted]

The meeting was attended by Comrade Kang Hui-won, candidate member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau, responsible secretary of the Pyongyang City party committee, and chairman of the Pyongyang City People's Committee; Comrade Ho Chong-suk, secretary of the WPK Central Committee; Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the LSWYK Central Committee; presidents and deans of universities and colleges; and LSWYK functionaries, together with youths and students in Pyongyang. [passage omitted]

100,000 Attend Pyongyang Rally

SK2506111688 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
1045 GMT 25 Jun 88

[Text] Pyongyang June 25 (KCNA)—A Pyongyang mass rally and demonstration took place this afternoon at the Kim Il-song square with the attendance of over 100,000 people on the occasion of "June 25, day of the struggle against U.S. imperialism".

The rally was attended by Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president; Kye Ung-tae, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPK Central Committee; and other senior officials.

Kang Hui-won, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Party Committee and chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee, made a speech at the rally.

Though 35 years have passed since the U.S. imperialists bent the knee before the Korean people and signed the Korean Armistice agreement, the danger of another war is increasing with each passing day in the Korean peninsula owing to the U.S. imperialists' belligerent moves, he said, and continued:

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught:

"In recent years, openly declaring that the Korean peninsula is of prime importance for attaining the immediate objectives of the U.S. war strategy, the U.S. warmongers have been shipping weapons of mass destruction into South Korea, including nuclear arms, in large quantities and encouraging the South Korean military fascists to stage almost daily war exercises against the northern half of our republic."

Having declared the Korean peninsula a "testing ground for a showdown of strength in the 80s" and South Korea the "firstline of the U.S. strategy", the present U.S. ruling quarters are continuously shipping various means of nuclear delivery including missiles into South Korea where more than 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons have already been deployed and thus converted it into a nuclear arsenal biggest in the far east, a hotbed of a nuclear war most dangerous in the world.

Today the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are stepping up preparations for aggressive war against our Republic with the 24th Olympic Games as an occasion.

The war moves of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges clearly show that they try to hasten preparations for an adventurous nuclear war under the cloak of the Olympic games and, in case the Olympic games fail to be held smoothly due to the internal political crisis of South Korea, shift the blame on to our Republic and ignite a nuclear war on the Korean peninsula.

The speaker stressed:

Availing ourselves of this opportunity, we strongly demand that the United States withdraw from South Korea without delay, taking along its aggression forces and lethal equipment including nuclear weapons.

The South Korean military fascist clique must give up its treacherous scheme to plunge the fellow countrymen into the holocaust of a nuclear war in league with the outside forces, put an immediate end to the brutal fascist suppression of patriotic students and people and step down without delay as demanded by the South Korean people.

Noting that in order to relax tension on the Korean peninsula today and create a favourable atmosphere for peaceful reunification, the arena of wide-range dialogue and negotiation between the North and the South should be provided, he stressed: parties, grouping and people of all strata in South Korea must not allow the self-opinionated acts of the South Korean authorities who try to monopolize dialogue, but make positive efforts to participate in dialogue as the subject of dialogue for reunification. Several persons also took the floor at the rally. The rally was followed by a mammoth mass demonstration.

More than 100,000 people of all strata in the capital marched through the main thoroughfares of the city, loudly chanting slogans in denunciation of the new war provocation moves and military fascistization of the U.S. imperialists and No Tae-u clique and their manoeuvres to perpetuate the national division.

Kang Hui-won Addresses Rally

SK2606095488 *Pyongyang Domestic Service*
in Korean 0900 GMT 25 Jun 88

[Speech by Kang Hui-won, alternate member of WPK Central Committee Political Bureau, responsible secretary of Pyongyang Municipal Party Committee, and chairman of Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee, at a 25 June Pyongyang mass rally marking anti-U.S. struggle day held in Kim Il-song Plaza—live]

[Text] Comrades: Today, in an environment where all the working people of the country, upholding the party Central Committee's letter and slogans, are vigorously carrying out the 200-day campaign on all fronts of socialist construction and where the South Korean people and students are bravely waging the struggle for independence, democracy, and reunification, we greet the 25 June anti-U.S. imperialists and anti-imperialists day.

On 25 June 38 years ago, the U.S. imperialists, with a wild ambition to make all of Korea their colony and, further, to dominate Asia and the world, provoked a brigandish war of aggression against our young republic. Putting in enormous troops of some 2 million men, including the basic force of the U.S. armed forces, the South Korean puppet army, and the mercenaries of the 15 countries who followed, and enormous military equipment, the U.S. imperialist aggressors devastated our peaceful cities and rural areas, running wild to gobble up our Republic at one stroke, and committed the most savage crime of randomly slaughtering innocent residents wherever they went.

During the grim days when the fate of the country and the nation was at stake, our people and the People's Army firmly rallied around the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the ever-victorious and iron-willed sagacious general and great military strategist; waged a daring struggle, fully demonstrating unequalled valiance and mass heroism under the leader's outstanding and refined leadership; and defeated the U.S. imperialists, who boasted of being the strongest in the world, thereby scoring great victory in the fatherland liberation war. [applause]

The historic victory of our people in the fatherland liberation war was the shining victory of the original military idea and outstanding art of commanding the

army and the chuche warfare of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song. It was also a great demonstration of the invincible might of our people and the People's Army, which were firmly united around the party and the leader.

For the first time in history, our people inflicted a humiliating defeat on the U.S. imperialist aggressors, thus powerfully encouraging the struggle of the world's oppressed people against the imperialist aggressors, and became a heroic people who opened a new era of anti-imperialist and anti-U.S. struggle on the earth. [applause]

Thirty-five years have passed since the U.S. imperialists knelt down before the Korean people and signed the Korean Armistice Agreement; however, durable peace has not yet settled on the Korean peninsula. Instead, an unstable state of truce continues and the danger of a new war increases with each passing day.

Since the signing of truce in Korea, the WPK and the DPRK Government have made consistent efforts to convert the transient state of truce into a durable peace and to eliminate the menace of war. In recent years alone, our party and the government of the Republic have made various reasonable and realistic peace proposals, such as the proposal for tripartite talks; the proposal for making the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free peace zone; the proposal for talks between military persons in authority; the proposal for high-level North-South political and military talks; the proposal for phased reduction of armed forces; and the proposal for North-South joint conference. These proposals were made to stop the danger of war which is daily aggravating the Korean peninsula, to ease tension, and to open a phase that is favorable for peace and the peaceful reunification of the country, and we have made every sincere effort for their realization.

However, the U.S. imperialists challenged our peace-loving efforts by further intensifying its war maneuvers. The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: The U.S. warmongers, raving that the area of the Korean peninsula is the most important in carrying out the present objective of the U.S. war strategy, are massively bringing weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons, into South Korea; and, instigating the South Korean military fascist elements, they are waging war exercise commotions every day against the northern half of our republic.

To concentrate their aggressive armed forces in Asia and invade our Republic and other socialist countries is the U.S. imperialists' consistent strategy toward Asia. In particular, the present U.S. ruling bunch declared the Korean peninsula to be a test site of strength in the eighties and South Korea to be the forefront of U.S. strategy; and they continuously brought into South Korea, where some 1,000 nuclear weapons have already been deployed, Lance missiles and various other types of

nuclear carrying means, thus making it the largest nuclear weapons arsenal in the Far East and the most dangerous nuclear war launching site in the world. [chanting of slogans and applause]

The U.S. imperialist warmongers, openly raving that the second Korean war will be a nuclear war, worked out an adventurous war strategy and plans, such as a 5-day war strategy designed to invade our Republic, a 9-day long-term strike strategy, and a 3-day nuclear war emergency plan, and are continuously conducting war exercises on the scale of a (?nuclear war) to realize them.

The fact that the U.S. imperialists are escalating the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises based on the criminal nuclear war plan designed to wage a surprise invasion against the northern half of the Republic, mobilizing the Japanese Self-Defense Forces as well as those of the South Korean puppets, is the intensive expression of this.

On the occasion of the 24th Olympiad this year, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are further accelerating preparations for a war of aggression against our Republic. The U.S. imperialists, having assembled large-scale naval and air forces, including carriers of the U.S. 7th Fleet, in and around South Korea on the pretext of Olympic security, are continuously staging military exercises in order to attack us.

In particular, during the annual security consultative meeting they held in early June, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets agreed to continuously stage the "Team Spirit" joint military exercise and to complete preparations for war by storing strategic materiel including (?ammunition) in South Korea, and by placing South Korea under the nuclear umbrella of the United States.

Such maneuvers by the U.S. imperialists and their stooges clearly demonstrate they are trying to hasten preparations for a nuclear war under the cloak of the Olympic games and that, in case the Olympics fail to be held smoothly due to South Korea's internal political crisis, they will shift the blame onto our Republic and ignite a new nuclear war on the Korean peninsula.

That the U.S. imperialists and their stooges are pursuing a policy of aggressive war on the Korean peninsula is clearly demonstrated by the fact that they persistently oppose our reasonable proposals for dialogue and easing tension, and that they are bestially suppressing the just patriotic struggle of the South Korean people, youths, and students for dialogue and peaceful reunification.

As the world widely knows, we offered a proposal for a North-South joint conference, proceeding from the idea of making this year a historic year that will provide a turning point for national harmony and unity. However, at the instigation of the U.S. imperialist masters, the South Korean ruling bunch is aggravating North-South

confrontation to an extreme degree by kicking up an unprecedented anti-Republic smear campaign and thereby challenging us. Furthermore, we offered a proposal to hold bilateral or multilateral contacts and talks between all political parties, factions, and people and figures from all walks of life in the North and South even before the North-South joint conference is held, taking into account the demands of the people from all walks of life in South Korea. However, the South Korean ruling bunch again proposed the issue of so-called talks between high-level authorities of the North and South. This is the same proposal that its predecessors advanced to block the influence of our proposal but which was later reduced to wastepaper. Thus, it blocked contact and dialogue between the North and South. When we issued a new magnanimous proposal to hold talks between the authorities in the form of preliminary talks for a North-South joint conference, the South Korean ruling bunch openly expressed its position of refusing dialogue.

The South Korean ruling bunch is not only opposed to all of our repeated proposals for dialogue, but it also unhesitatingly perpetrated a fascist, barbarous act by blocking the North-South student talks—South Korean students had proposed these, to open a stage for national harmony and unity—by mobilizing tens of thousands of police. [shouting of slogans]

To oppose dialogue with us, the South Korean military fascist clique recently openly revealed its criminal intention to employ dialogue for splittist purposes by monopolizing it under the signboard of unifying dialogue into one channel. It even declared an emergency situation throughout South Korea, a situation which actually does not differ from martial law, in order to repress with guns and bayonets the movement of the South Korean people, youths, and students for independence, democracy, and reunification.

All this demonstrates that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are not interested in easing tension in our country, that they have no intention of peacefully resolving the Korean issue through dialogue and negotiations, and that they only pursue confrontation, thus aggravating tension, and the policy of aggressive war.

The U.S. imperialists are implementing an antidialogue, antipeace, and antireunification policy through the vicious/military fascist dictatorship and [word indistinct].

The U.S. imperialists, who maintained the military fascist dictatorship by replacing their stooges whenever a crisis arose in their colonial rule, concocted a new regime under the guise of democracy. This was an attempt to eradicate the spirit for independence, democracy, and reunification which is rapidly growing among the South Korean people. The current South Korean regime is a

most atrocious and vicious military fascist regime, one which far surpasses all of its previous military fascist regimes. Nothing can conceal this.

The incumbent No Tae-u military fascist regime, which is opposed and rejected by an absolute majority of the South Korean people, is an antinational and antipopular puppet regime. It is a splittist regime which is faithfully implementing the U.S. imperialists' colonial subjugation policy and war policy.

As long as the U.S. imperialists occupy South Korea and implement the colonial subjugation policy, the South Korean people cannot achieve the nation's independence and democracy, nor can all of the Korean people escape the danger of war and permanent division.

Due to the reckless war policy and the confrontation maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges, an extremely grave situation in which a nuclear war may break out at any moment is being created in our country.

In the name of this rally, I sternly denounce our sworn enemy, the U.S. imperialist aggressors who 38 years ago plunged our people into the calamity of war and who are now viciously blocking peace and the peaceful reunification of our country, running amok to bring the disaster of a nuclear war to our people, and forcibly occupying South Korea. I also denounce their filthy stooges, the No Tae-u military fascist regime. [applause, shouting of slogans]

Comrades, relaxing tension and ensuring peace on the Korean peninsula are important current issues related to our people's destiny and also urgent questions directly linked to peace in Asia and the world.

The reality in which the United States, a country which lies far across the Pacific, is frantically running amok with reckless war provocation maneuvers after having dragged numerous forces of aggression to South Korea, demonstrates that the danger of war has emerged as today's urgent issue in Korea, not tomorrow's.

We must check and frustrate at any cost the U.S. imperialists' aggressive war provocation maneuvers and ensure peace by preventing the danger of war.

Today, when voices calling for the withdrawal of U.S. troops are increasing each day in South Korea and reasons for withdrawing U.S. forces from South Korea are put forth even in the United States, the United States has no excuse whatsoever for continuously keeping its troops in South Korea. Moreover, the United States has no justification for making South Korea a nuclear forward base by dragging in nuclear weapons and opposing us, who have no nuclear weapons.

If the nuclear weapons which the United States dragged into South Korea are aimed at other socialist countries, it should then deservedly withdraw them from South Korea, for it has concluded an agreement with the Soviet Union for reducing nuclear weapons.

Availing ourselves of this opportunity, we strongly demand that the United States immediately withdraw from South Korea, taking with it its forces of aggression and lethal equipment, including nuclear weapons.

The South Korean military fascist clique must give up its treacherous scheme to plunge the fellow countrymen into the holocaust of a nuclear war in league with the outside forces. It must put an end to the brutal fascist suppression of patriotic students and the people, and immediately step down as demanded by the South Korean people.

People from all walks of life in South Korea who are holding even higher the anti-U.S. banner for independence which they have already raised, should more vigorously wage the anti-U.S., antiwar, and antinuclear struggle to expel the U.S. imperialists, eradicate their colonial rule, and make the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free peace zone by checking and frustrating every step of the war maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges.

In order to currently relax tension on the Korean peninsula and to create a favorable atmosphere for peaceful reunification, an arena for wide-ranging dialogue and negotiations between the North and South should be made available.

We again maintain that either the holding of a North-South joint conference in which representatives of all political parties and public organizations including the persons in authority and figures from all walks of life in the North and South participate, or the realization of bilateral or multilateral contacts and talks between all political parties, factions, and individual figures from all walks of life in the North and South, are the most reasonable methods for eliminating the state of confrontation between the North and South, and for achieving the nation's harmony and unity. [applause]

The dialogue on the interests of the entire nation and for reunification should not be monopolized by a certain special class, a certain party, or a certain faction. Parties, groups, and people of all strata in South Korea must not permit the self-opinionated actions of the South Korean authorities who seek to monopolize dialogue, but must instead make positive efforts to participate in dialogue as the subject of dialogue for reunification.

Taking this opportunity, we express the firm belief that the South Korean students will work to the finish to realize through struggle the North-South student talks which they proposed amid the struggle.

The U.S. imperialists should clearly see the entire Korean people's aspirations for and determination to achieve a relaxation of tension and the peaceful reunification of the country, and they should act judiciously.

If, despite our warning, the South Korean fascist military clique follows the United States and clings to confrontation and war maneuvers, it should keep in mind that it must accept full responsibility for all consequences arising from this, and it should even now accept our peace proposals.

Today, all the people in the northern half of the republic are faced with the grave yet glorious task of firmly safeguarding the socialist fatherland and revolutionary gains from the aggressive maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges. They are also faced with expediting the complete triumph of socialism and the independent and peaceful reunification of the nation by accelerating the revolution and construction.

Upholding the letter and slogans of the party Central Committee, we should create new miracles and innovations in all domains and units of socialist construction by more vigorously waging the 200-day campaign, remaining alert, and mobilizing. Thus, we should glorify the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Republic as a great festival of victors. [applause]

Only victory and glory lay before our people, who advance by upholding the great leader and following the wise leadership of the glorious party center. [applause]

Let us all fight more vigorously for the complete triumph of socialism in the northern half of the Republic and for the independent and peaceful reunification of the nation, in firm unity with the party Central Committee headed by respected Comrade Kim Il-song. [applause, shouting of slogans]

Further on 25 June Meetings

SK2606090288 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0846 GMT 26 Jun 88

[Text] Pyongyang June 26 (KCNA)—Mass meetings and demonstrations were held in Chongjin, Haeju and Kanggye cities and Kim Chong-suk County of Yanggang Province, Kimhwa County of Kangwon Province and Panmun County of Kaesong Municipality on June 25 on the occasion of "June 25, day of the struggle against U.S. imperialism."

Officials of local administrative and economic organs and representatives of all strata made speeches at the meetings.

They said that the Korean war provoked by the U.S. imperialist aggressors 38 years ago, on June 25, 1950, was a most brutal and cruel war of genocide unprecedented in the world history of war.

They denounced the U.S. imperialist aggressors for harbouring the ambition to start a war of aggression on the DPRK and continuously holding military exercises including the criminal "Team Spirit" joint military exercises to inflict nuclear disasters upon the Korean people, far from drawing a proper lesson from the ignominious defeat they sustained in the Korean war.

The U.S. imperialist aggressors who pursue the policy of division against the desire of the Korean people for reunification must withdraw from South Korea at once, taking along with all their aggression forces as demanded by the South Korean people, and their running dog No Tae-u, the fascist gangster, must put an end to the brutal suppression of the anti-U.S. struggle for independence and the anti-fascist struggle for democracy of the South Korean people and students and step down immediately, they stressed. Noting that the desire of the South Korean people for independence, democracy and reunification can never be realized as long as the U.S. imperialists keep occupying South Korea and pursuing the policy of colonial subjugation, they called upon the South Korean people to rise as one and wage more vigorously the anti-U.S., anti-fascist struggle for democracy.

Demonstrations Held 26 June

SK2706100788 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0958 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] Pyongyang June 27 (KCNA)—Mass rallies and demonstrations were held on June 26 in the provincial seats of Hamhung, Sariwon and Hyesan, Manpo City of Chagang Province, Kaechon County of South Pyongan Province and Chaeryong County of South Hwanghae Province on the occasion of "June 25, day of the struggle against U.S. imperialism".

Speeches were made at the rallies by leading officials of administrative and economic organs and representatives of all segments of people.

Speakers said:

The U.S. imperialists who boasted of their being the "strongest" in the world fell on their knees before our people in the Korean war. But, refusing to go home drawing a proper lesson from their ignominious defeat, they still remain in South Korea and are resorting to a frantic row of anti-communist confrontation under the pretext of "threat from the North" and the '88 Olympic games, while running wild to ignite a new war of aggression, a nuclear war.

The No Tae-u puppet clique undisguisedly revealed its criminal attempt to monopolize and use the dialogue for their splittist purpose under the cloak of "unified channel of dialogue" at the instigation of the U.S. imperialists.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets went so far as to declare a "state of emergency", little different from a "state of martial law" across South Korea to put down the movement of the people and students for independence, democracy and reunification at the point of the bayonet. This shows that they are pursuing only confrontation, aggravation of tension, an aggressive and belligerent policy.

To prevent the danger of war on the Korean peninsula and achieve peace of the country and its peaceful reunification, the speakers stressed, the U.S. imperialist aggressors must be withdrawn from South Korea and their colonial rule be destroyed.

The rallies were followed by mass demonstrations in Hamhung, Sariwon and Hyesan.

Newspapers Mark Anti-U.S. Struggle Day
SK2506054588 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0522 GMT 25 Jun 88

[Text] Pyongyang June 25 (KCNA)—All papers here today stress that the U.S. imperialists should draw a lesson from the ignominious defeat they sustained in the past Korean war, give up reckless war provocation manoeuvres endangering peace and withdraw from South Korea without delay before they are driven out of there by the struggle of the South Korean people.

Papers carry editorials on June 25, day of the struggle against U.S. imperialism.

NODONG SINMUN says:

The Korean people have made all sincere efforts to prevent the danger of the recurrence of a war, consolidate peace and carry out the cause of national reunification.

But the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique have accepted none of our realistic, fair and aboveboard proposals and answered each time with the further intensified war provocation moves and the extremely aggravated situation on the Korean peninsula.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song said:

"U.S. imperialism, dreaming of world supremacy, is stepping up aggressive moves in the Asian and Pacific region, while attaching great strategic significance to the Korean peninsula, a major military strongpoint in Asia".

The U.S. imperialists declared the Korean peninsula their "frontline defence area", have already introduced more than 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons of different kinds into South Korea to turn it into a nuclear forward base, the largest in the Far East, a dangerous hotbed of a nuclear war and are stepping up the moves to form the U.S.-Japan-South Korea three-way military alliance at the stage of practice.

At the "military committee meeting" and "annual security consultative meeting" held in Seoul some time ago the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets discussed on reinforcing the "early warning watch system" and, at the same time, additionally deploying more U.S. imperialist aggression forces and reinforcing and deploying an aircraft carrier and other combat warships in the waters of South Korea on the plea of "Olympic security" and openly resorted to military threat and blackmail against us.

This shows that the U.S. imperialists and the puppets are intentionally aggravating the confrontation and tension on the Korean peninsula under the cloak of "Olympic security" and trying to ignite a war of aggression against us by inventing a pretext.

The grave nature of the U.S. imperialists' policy of aggression and war lies in that it is not only laying a big obstacle on the road of peace in our country and its peaceful reunification but also blocking the road of the independent and democratic development of the South Korean society.

The No Tae-u military fascist clique is talking about "democratisation" and crying for "dialogue" and "unification" in words but, in actuality, is answering our proposal for a North-South joint conference for national reconciliation and unity and the rising desire of the South Korean people for reunification by unity with communism, unity with the North, with the further intensification of the anti-communist, anti-DPRK smear campaign and war racket, and blocking even the road of a Panmunjom meeting of Northern and Southern students at the point of the bayonet, while resorting to unheard-of fascist rule and moves for a permanent division.

The No Tae-u military fascist clique must stop at once the war gamble to attack the North in glove with foreign forces, discontinue the treacherous act of inciting the North-South confrontation and putting down the people's desire for reunification at the point of the bayonet and step down.

We express the belief that all the peaceloving countries and people of the world will heighten vigilance against the new war provocation manoeuvres stepped up by the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries and the South Korean puppets with the Olympics as an occasion, direct deep attention to the tense situation prevailing on the Korean peninsula and continue to extend positive support and solidarity for the Korean people in their struggle for the peaceful reunification of the country.

NODONG SINMUN Article

SK2506004288 *Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean*
2219 GMT 23 Jun 88

[NODONG SINMUN 24 June special article by KPA Colonel General Chon Mun-uk: "If U.S. Imperialists and South Korean Puppets Ignite New War, They Will Be Unable To Escape a Thousandfold Punishment"]

[Text] Amid the fierce flames of the 200-day campaign to significantly mark the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Republic, constant innovations are being effected on all fronts of socialist construction. Under circumstances in which the spirit for anti-U.S. struggle of the South Korean youths, students, and people and their aspirations for national reunification have been enhanced higher than ever before, we greet the 25 June anti-U.S. imperialists struggle day.

Marking this day, our people and the officers and men of the People's Army are filled with surging indignation and hostile feelings against the U.S. imperialist aggressors, who triggered a war of aggression in Korea and inflicted immeasurable disaster and misfortune on our people. We are firmly resolved to achieve the independent reunification of the fatherland without fail by crushing the new war provocation maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists.

The U.S. imperialists are the sworn enemy of the Korean people who invaded our country scores and even a hundred years ago and shameless provokers of war and warmongers who triggered a vicious, criminal war of aggression in our country.

The U.S. imperialists' provocation of the Korean war 38 years ago was a direct product of the policy of aggression of the rascals who were engrossed with ambition to dominate the world. The U.S. imperialists, who illegally occupied South Korea after World War II by means of force, turned the entire land of South Korea into a powder magazine for war in an attempt to make Korea a bridgehead for invasion of the Asian Continent and a military stronghold against the national liberation movement and socialist countries. Thus, they prepared gigantic forces of aggression.

Based on such premeditated war preparations, the U.S. imperialists and the Syngman Rhee puppet clique each day perpetrated military provocations in areas along the 38th Parallel and finally started an adventurous armed invasion against the northern half of the republic on 25 June 1950.

Intending to eradicate our young Republic, which was only 2 years old, while still in its cradle, and to occupy all of Korea at a single breath, the U.S. imperialists mobilized their massive armed forces to the Korean front. These forces included several million of their aggressive forces, equipped with modern technology; mercenaries from 15 obedient countries; the South Korean puppet

Army; and numerous kinds of combat equipment and technological means including airplanes, tanks, and ships, to the Korean front. They reduced our cities and farms to ashes by employing all available cruel and barbarous war means and methods—such as never before seen in the history of war—and massacred peaceful residents at random.

Thus, our nation was turned into a sea of fire during the days of war and many nations of the world were deeply concerned with the destiny of our people. However, the war in our country ended with the proud victory of our people and Republic, not with victory for the U.S. imperialist aggressors who started the war.

Under the leadership of the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the ever-victorious iron-willed commander and legendary hero and outstanding military strategist, our people and the officers and men of the People's Army courageously rose in the sacred struggle to crush the enemy and smashed the U.S. imperialist aggressors by fully demonstrating lofty revolutionary spirit and mass heroism, thus attaining a great victory.

This was a historic event that vigorously showed that the Army and the people who fight in firm unity with the party and leader can easily crush and expel a strong enemy, even if they arrogantly attack with modern arms and massive armed forces.

Since that time, our people and the People's Army could more vigorously demonstrate our dignity to the entire world as a heroic people and Army and the myth about the strength of the U.S. imperialist aggressors was crushed to pieces.

The imperialists cannot live even a single day without adhering to aggression and war maneuvers. The atrocious aggressive nature of the U.S. imperialists—the ringleaders of invasion of the world and the sworn enemy of our people—has not changed.

The U.S. imperialists are frantically running amok to start a new war, while adhering to the two-Koreas plot. This is instead of learning a due lesson from the miserable and disgraceful defeat they suffered from the Korean war and withdrawing from South Korea.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Political Bureau Presidium and secretary of the party Central Committee, has indicated: Because of the frantic war provocation maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean military fascist clique, an urgent situation in which a war may break out at any moment is being created in our country.

Today the danger of war comes from the South, not from the North; and the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique are desperately opposed to the

peace-loving policy and the proposals for national reunification of our party and the government of the Republic. Our party and the government of the Republic consistently called for independent resolution of the issue of national reunification through the strength of the Korean people themselves without the interference of any outside force. Our party and the government of the Republic put forth concrete, practical, and reasonable plans to realize such policy and proposals and made every possible sincere effort to realize them.

Recently, we even put forth a number of peaceful proposals and took epochal steps to unilaterally cut 100,000 troops and turn 150,000 troops to great socialist construction.

Today in our country, soldiers of the People's Army are registering labor exploits in socialist construction in all construction sites, including those of Pyongyang-Kaesong Expressway, Kwangbok Street, and the Suncheon vinylon complex.

However, in South Korea gigantic manpower and material resources are being directed to war preparations. The U.S. imperialists are leading the situation to the brink of war. The rascals long ago reorganized the operational command system of the puppet Army into a wartime system and the puppet Army into an offensive-type Army. They deployed 80-90 percent of the U.S. imperialist aggressor forces and the puppet Army in advanced areas close to the Military Demarcation Line. It is no secret that the rascals long ago dragged more than 1,000 nuclear weapons and even nuclear backpacks into South Korea, which is not a large land, and that no less than 180,000 special attack forces have taken up a constant mobilization posture, aiming at target areas in the northern half of the Republic.

Having deployed numerous nuclear attack forces in South Korea, the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u group have assumed a posture in which they may launch a northward offensive operation at any moment. Not satisfied with this, they continuously deployed the aggressive forces in and around South Korea, including the combat carrier corps which participated in the "Team Spirit-88" joint military exercise, on the pretext of ensuring the security of the Olympics. They even placed airplanes and aggressive armed forces of the U.S. forces in Japan and the Philippines under a constant mobilization posture.

All facts show that the U.S. imperialists are the ring-leader of aggression and war, the sworn enemy of our people, and that they are the ones who block Korea's reunification and are the vicious behind-the-scenes manipulator who instigate the South Korean puppets to division and war.

Unless the U.S. imperialists' maneuvers of aggression are destroyed and as long as the U.S. imperialist aggressors remain in South Korea, the issue of national reunification cannot be resolved independently and no one can think of peace and security in our country, in Asia, and in the entire world.

It is no accident that people from all walks of life in South Korea, including young men and students, raised their voices to call for participation in the discussion of reunification and dialogue for reunification and attacked U.S. cultural centers in many places, shouting: Yankee, go home!

There is no reason whatsoever for the U.S. imperialists to remain in South Korea. The U.S. imperialists should face the trend of the time and act with discretion. They should immediately withdraw from South Korea, discarding their war maneuvers. The enemy should not regard the peace-loving policy of our party and the government of the Republic as weakness of might.

We are strong, dignified people and are fully prepared to smash the U.S. imperialist aggressors with one stroke if they attack us. Our people and Army are a most proud and dignified people and Army who advance by upholding at the van of our revolution the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song, peerless military genius and ever-victorious iron-willed commander who crushed two imperialisms during one generation and who opened a new era of anti-imperialist and anti-U.S. struggle, and by following the guide of the glorious party.

By following the refined leadership of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, who is victoriously leading the entire Army's cause of *chuche*-orientation, the might of our People's Army has been unprecedentedly strengthened and its political and ideological superiority is being demonstrated at the highest level.

Today loyalty to the party and the leader has become the most fundamental ideological and spiritual trait and a most important factor in all ranks of the People's Army. All officers and men of the People's Army are carrying out the party's idea for the founding of the Army, being more firmly united around the party Central Committee headed by respected Comrade Kim Il-song than ever before.

The might of such revolutionary armed forces, who have the firm ideological resolution to entrust the leader of the revolution with all their destinies and to dedicate their youth and lives to the party, leader, fatherland, and people is indomitable and ever-victorious. Such armed forces can always be victorious in a war against any strong enemy.

Today, not only do we have the indomitable revolutionary armed forces who are firmly prepared politically, ideologically, militarily, and technologically, but we also have a mighty socialist country which displays the brilliant rays of independence, self-reliance, and self-defense.

Amid the majestic struggle for grand socialist construction being vigorously accelerated according to our party's magnificent plan, the foundation of the nation's self-reliant economy is being more solidly consolidated. This gives great confidence and courage to our people and People's Army who are resolved to fight against the U.S. imperialist aggressors to the end.

Today the spirit of the anti-U.S. struggle is enhanced more highly than ever before among the South Korean youths, students, and people. No matter how gigantic the forces of aggression and nuclear weapons the U.S. imperialists may drag into South Korea and no matter how frantically they may run amok with war maneuvers, the rascals' aggressive ambition can never be realized; rather, ultimate defeat will result.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets should face this reality and act with discretion. We do not want a war; but we are not afraid of war. It is the invariable position of our people and Army to respond to the enemy's retaliation with retaliation and to full-scale war with full-scale war. Our people and the officers and men of the People's Army are keenly watching the new war provocation maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique with lofty revolutionary vigilance.

We will never look idly stand by and watch [susu panggwan] the rascals' maneuvers of aggression and war. If the U.S. imperialist aggressors attempt to find a way out of the crisis they face from military provocations against our Republic in defiance of our patient efforts and warnings, they cannot avoid a thousandfold disciplinary punishment.

The struggle by our party and people to achieve national reunification by forcing the U.S. imperialist forces to withdraw from South Korea and to ensure permanent peace on the Korean peninsula enjoys the absolute support and encouragement of peace-loving people of the entire world. Our people and People's Army will fight more tenaciously by upholding the banner of anti-imperialist and anti-U.S. struggle and will accomplish without fail the historic cause of national reunification by forcing the U.S. imperialists to withdraw from South Korea.

Victory is always on the side of justice. No strength in the world can block the advance of our people and the officers and men of the People's Army who rose up to carry out the cause of justice in firm unity by upholding the wise leadership of the party and the leader.

All the people and the officers and men of the People's Army will crush every step of the enemy's new war provocation maneuvers by registering a new advance in socialist construction and in strengthening combat capability of the army and will more vigorously expedite the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland and the accomplishment of the chuche cause.

Kim Il-song Goes Through China on Way to MPR

Goes Through Shenyang, Changchung

SK2706052188 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0454 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] *Pyongyang June 26 (KCNA)*—The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, passed through cities of China on the way of his visit to the Mongolian People's Republic.

President Kim Il-song passed through Shenyang, Liaoning provincial seat, China, on the afternoon of June 25.

Present at the railway station to greet President Kim Il-song were Li Changchun, deputy secretary of the Liaoning Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China and governor of the Liaoning Provincial People's Government, and other leading officials of Liaoning provincial and Shenyang City party and government organs and Army, and the consul general and consular attaches of our country in Shenyang and their families.

The Chinese cadres got on the train, warmly welcomed President Kim Il-song and wished him great success in his visit to the Mongolian People's Republic.

President Kim Il-song expressed thanks for this and had a cordial and friendly conversation with the Chinese cadres.

He was presented with a gift in the name of the Liaoning provincial people.

He passed through Changchun, Jilin provincial seat, China, Saturday evening.

Changchun railway station was in a festive mood to welcome President Kim Il-song.

Put up at the station were streamers reading: "Warm welcome to President Kim Il-song!," "Warm welcome to President Kim Il-song passing through China on his foreign trip!," And "Wish President Kim Il-song bon voyage in his foreign trip!."

The railway station compound was overflowing with a large number of working people of all strata and school youth and children in their holiday best carrying national flags of the two countries, bunches of flowers, flowered handkerchiefs and other colored decorations.

Present at the station to greet President Kim Il-song were He Zhukang, secretary of the Jilin Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China and governor of the Jilin provincial people's government, and other leading cadres of Jilin provincial and Changchun City party and government organs and Army.

When the train carrying President Kim Il-song pulled in the compound of the railway station, the crowd enthusiastically welcomed him, waving flags of the two countries, bunches of flowers and flowered handkerchiefs and raising cheers "Welcome, welcome" and "Warm welcome to President Kim Il-song!"

President Kim Il-song exchanged greetings with cadres in Jilin province and Changchun City who came out to greet him.

A child presented him with a fragrant bouquet.

He got on the train, waving to the cheering crowds, and had a cordial conversation with the Chinese cadres who greeted him.

He left Changchun City amid the enthusiastic cheers of the crowds who bade him farewell with feelings of boundless respect and reverence.

President Kim Il-song passed through Manzouli, the border city of China, on the afternoon of June 26.

Manzouli railway station was overfulfilled with a warm welcoming atmosphere.

Hanging at the railway station were flags of the two countries symbolic of ever-lasting friendship and solidarity between the Korean and Chinese peoples and red flags were fluttering.

Welcome slogans were put up in the railway station compound which presented a sea of flowers with thousands of working people of all walks of life and youths and students carrying bunches of flowers, flowered rings, garlands, fans and other decorations.

Great emotions and joys of seeing President Kim Il-song again in Manzouli four years after could be read in the faces of welcoming crowd in Korean and minority attire who were dancing and singing, beautifully adorning the compound with splendid movements.

Wang Qun, secretary of the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Regional Committee of the CPC and other leading officials of the autonomous regional and Manzouli City party and government organs and Army came out to the railway station to greet President Kim Il-song.

When the train carrying him pulled in the railway station, thunderous cheers of "Welcome, welcome", "Warm welcome to President Kim Il-song!" burst forth and the flower waves of welcome rolled.

President Kim Il-song exchanged warm greetings with Chinese cadres who came out to greet him.

A child presented him with a bunch of fragrant flowers.

Waving to the cheering crowds, he entered into the rest room of the railway station and had a cordial and friendly conversation with cadres from the central organs who accompanied him from Dandong to Manzouli and cadres who came out to greet him.

The Chinese leading officials wished him good health and great success in his foreign tour.

President Kim Il-song got on the train again and left Manzouli amid enthusiastically warm send-off of the Chinese cadres and crowds.

Stops at Tantung City

*SK2506113488 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1037 GMT 25 Jun 88*

[Text] Pyongyang June 25 (KCNA)—The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, passed Tantung, a border city of the People's Republic of China, this morning on the way of his visit to the Mongolian People's Republic.

Tantung railway station was in a festive attire to welcome President Kim Il-song.

Hung at the railway station were national flags of the two countries symbolic of the traditional Korea-China friendship and fluttering on the station and nearby buildings were buntings of five colours.

Hung at the railway station were streamers reading "Warm welcome to President Kim Il-song!", "Warm welcome to President Kim Il-song passing through China on his foreign trip!" and "Wish President Kim Il-song bon voyage in his foreign trip!"

The railway station compound and its surroundings were overflowing with working people of all strata and school youth and children carrying bunches of flowers, garlands and colored ribbons. People were awaiting the arrival of President Kim Il-song, some of them in national costumes of the two countries dancing to the tune of music, beating drums and gongs. On their faces could be read boundless respect and reverence for the respected leader President Kim Il-song who has made immortal contributions to the strengthening and development of Korea-China friendship.

Present at the railway station were Comrade Jiang Guanghua, vice-director of the International Liaison Department of the C.C., Communist Party of China,

Comrade Liu Shuqing, vice-minister of foreign affairs, and Comrade Luo Yunguang, vice-minister of railways, who came to Dandong to conduct president Kim Il-song to the borderline.

Also present at the railway station to greet him were Comrade Quan Shuren, secretary of the Liaoning Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China and other senior officials of the province and Tantung.

When the train carrying President Kim Il-song pulled in the compound of the railway station, the crowd enthusiastically welcomed him, waving bunches of flowers and color ribbons and performing dances with the cheers of "welcome, welcome, warm welcome!" and "warm welcome to President Kim Il-song!"

President Kim Il-song alighted from the train and exchanged greetings with Chinese cadres who came out to greet him.

A child presented a fragrant bouquet to him.

President Kim Il-song conversed with the Chinese cadres in a cordial and friendly atmosphere at the rest room of the railway station.

He got on the train again amid the enthusiastic send-off of the crowd.

Passes Through Sinuiju City

*SK2506052788 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0516 GMT 25 Jun 88*

[Text] Pyongyang June 25 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, passed Sinuiju, a border city, by train at 09:15 today on his way to pay an official goodwill visit to the Mongolian People's Republic upon the invitation of Comrade Jambyn Batmonh, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and chairman of the presidium of the Great People's Hural of the MPR.

The great leader President Kim Il-song was seen off at Sinuiju Railway Station by Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea; Comrade O Chin-u, member of the presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and minister of people's Armed Forces; Comrades Kye Ung-tae, Yon Hyong-muk, and Hong Song-nam, members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee; Comrades Chon Pyong-ho, Choe Kwang and Kim Pok-sin, alternate members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee; Comrades Choe Tae-pok and So Kwan-hui, secretaries of the WPK Central Committee; Comrade Kim Pyong-yul, member of the WPK Central Committee, chief secretary

of the North Pyongan provincial committee of the WPK and chairman of the North Pyongan provincial people's committee; Comrade Yom Chae-man, member of the WPK Central Committee and chairman of the North Pyongan provincial administration and economic guidance committee; and other leading functionaries of the party and power bodies, administrative and economic organs in North Pyongan Province and Sinuiju City, and generals of the Korean People's Army.

Children presented bunches of fragrant flowers to President Kim Il-song.

The leading cadres of the party and the state who came out to see him off sincerely wished President Kim Il-song good health and fine success in his visit to the Mongolian People's Republic.

Crosses Into Mongolia

*SK2506012888 Pyongyang Domestic Service
in Korean 0030 GMT 25 Jun 88*

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the WPK Central Committee and DPRK president, passed through Sinuiju.

At 0915 on 25 June, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the WPK Central Committee and DPRK president, passed by train through the border city of Sinuiju to pay an official goodwill visit to the MPR upon the invitation of Comrade Jambyn Batmonh, general secretary of the Central Committee of the MPRP and chairman of the Presidium of the MPR People's Great Hural.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song was seen off at Sinuiju Railway Station by Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Political Bureau Presidium and secretary of the WPK Central Committee; Comrade O Chin-u, member of the Political Bureau Presidium of the WPK Central Committee and minister of the People's Armed Forces; Comrades Kye Ung-tae, Yon Hyong-muk, and Hong Song-nam, members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee; Comrades Chon Pyong-ho, Choe Kwang, and Kim Pok-sin, alternate members of the Political Bureau; Comrades Choe Tae-pok and So Kwan-hui, secretaries of the WPK Central Committee; Comrade Kim Pyong-yul, member of the WPK Central Committee, responsible secretary of the North Pyongan Provincial Party Committee, and chairman of the North Pyongan Provincial People's Committee; Comrade Yom Chae-man, member of the WPK Central Committee and chairman of the North Pyongan Provincial Administration Economic Guidance Committee; responsible functionaries of the party, power organs, and administration economic guidance organs of North Pyongan Province and Sinuiju City; and KPA generals and officers.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song was presented with a fragrant bouquet by children.

Leading party and state cadres who came to see him off wholeheartedly wished the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song good health and a good return after attaining an excellent success in his visit to the MPR.

Sends Thanks to PRC Leaders

SK2706050188 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0451 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] Pyongyang June 26 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on June 26 sent a message of thanks to Comrade Zhao Ziyang, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, and Comrade Yang Shangkun, president of the People's Republic of China, passing through the borderline of the PRC on his way to the Mongolian People's Republic.

The message says:

Chinese comrades accorded a warm welcome to us and provided us with all accommodations this time, too, as they did always in the past.

Feeling their exceptional sense of intimacy with us, I express deep thanks to you for this.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I sincerely wish you and the Chinese people greater success in the struggle to implement the decisions of the 13th congress of the Communist Party of China, build socialism with Chinese characteristics and achieve the complete reunification of the country.

China Media Reportage

For Chinese media reportage of Kim Il-song's travel to Mongolia via the PRC, see the "Northeast Asia" subsection of the "International Affairs" section of the 27 June China DAILY REPORT.

U.S. Charges of DMZ Construction Refuted

SK2606085488 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0841 GMT 26 Jun 88

["Sinister Fabrication of Aggressors"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 26 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries a signed commentary flaying the allegation of U.S. Defence Department officials that establishments for helicopter landing and anti-aircraft battery seem to be built by us near the military demarcation line.

It says:

Clamoring that there are some "signs" and "possibility" and that it "seems" to do something, the United States provokes us with no ground. This clearly shows how far it has gone to launch an anti-DPRK smear campaign.

It is as clear as noonday that "threat from the North" cried about by those who describe in a far-fetched way peaceful construction as a military step is a fabrication and nobody in the world will believe it. A rumour about "threat from the North" is so fictitious that a large number of people even among the U.S. ruling circles say that it is a fabrication. The rumour about "threat from the North" spread by the U.S. authorities is a despicable sophism to frighten the South Korean people struggling for independence against U.S. imperialism and for the Olympic cohosting and the country's reunification and to justify the scheme to intensify the crackdown upon them, artificially aggravate the tension on the Korean peninsula and abuse the Olympics for a war purpose. It is also a crafty trick to perpetrate provocations against us by shifting the blame on to us in case the Olympic games fail to be held as desired by them.

Those who actually threaten the Olympics are the U.S. imperialists who are clamoring about "threat from the North".

Those who threaten the Olympics, while crying about "possible provocation" by somebody and even its time, are like a thief crying stop thief.

The U.S. imperialists disclose more saliently their foul nature and land themselves in further isolation by baselessly speaking ill of us to abuse the Olympics for their wicked political and military purpose.

North Condemns South's Olympic 'Crackdown'

SK2606083888 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0824 GMT 26 Jun 88

["Hysteric Repression by Puppet Clique Under Pretext of "Olympic Security"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 26 (KCNA)—The South Korean fascist clique on June 23 called a meeting of the so-called "committee for support to the Olympics" and formed a "special checkup team" with 20 odd gangsters selected from puppet machines to examine "measures for Olympic security," according to a radio report from Seoul.

The puppets decided to suppress rallies of students and people of various strata for independence, democracy and reunification and labor disputes for the right to live as "illegal rallies" and "harmful factors to the Olympic games."

The puppet prime minister who showed up there cried that there were many "leftist pro-communist elements" in South Korea now and instigated the gangsters to tighten watch on them.

And the puppet police headquarters decided to launch "a 70-day operation to wipe out crimes" from the 23rd and mobilise the police across South Korea in it.

That day they held a "meeting of criminal investigation and detective section chiefs" and gave green light to this wholesale repression with outcries over "labor-management disputes" and "demonstrations in university towns."

This indicates that the No Tae-u group, faced with a serious crisis by the powerful struggle of South Korean students and people of all strata for independence against U.S. imperialism, for democracy against fascism and for reunification, is trying to find a way out in intensifying fascist crackdown on them under the pretext of the Olympic games.

CPRF Denounces No Tae-u's 'War Hysterics'

SK2506051588 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
0505 GMT 25 Jun 88

[Text] *Pyongyang June 25 (KCNA)*—The secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland Friday published its information No. 484 denouncing the traitor No Tae-u who incited war fever for invading the North while prowling about the front-line area.

The traitor No Tae-u, the information notes, went around a puppet Air Force base and Army unit in the central sector of the front on June 22 and raised a hue and cry over the North's fictitious "provocation" and "threat." And, not yet satisfied, he set afloat the lie that the North had "introduced new-type weapons" and "deployed armed forces in the forward area" and shouted himself hoarse for "retaliation" on and "supremacy" over us. This was an intolerable challenge to us.

This war hysterics of the puppet No Tae-u clearly indicated that he intends to lay the blame at our door in case the Olympic games fail to open as scheduled due to the struggle of the South Korean people of broad strata and start a new war at any cost.

The information further says:

Whatever plot the South Korean puppets may frame, no one would be fooled by it. The South Korean people should decisively shatter the criminal moves of the No Tae-u group to put the Olympics on the altar of war and of the U.S. imperialists manipulating it behind the scene.

Measures for August Student Talks Discussed

SK2706104688 *Pyongyang KCNA in English*
1038 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] *Pyongyang June 27 (KCNA)*—A review of the undertakings for the June 10 North-South student talks was made, measures for the realization of August 15

North-South student talks discussed and a relevant decision adopted at the third meeting of the preparatory committee of the North side for North-South student talks held here today.

The meeting expressed full support for the 10 million signature campaign for Olympic co-hosting, an appeal of South Korean students, and decided to form a North side's committee to struggle for joint Olympics with student representatives in the northern half of Korea, in response to the call of South Korean students.

It decided to organize a grand across-the-country march squad made up of representatives of students from different universities and colleges all over the country for successfully ensuring the August 8-14 grand across-the-country march and form a sports delegation of students of the North side to a sports meet of students in the North and the South.

Considering that it is necessary to notify the student delegation of the South side of matters in detail arising in the grand across-the-country march and August 15 North-South student talks at the earliest possible date, the meeting authorized the student delegation of the North side to send a letter concerning this.

The meeting expressed the belief that a historic meeting of North-South students at Panmunjom would be realised without fail on August 15, the significant 43rd anniversary of the liberation of the country.

VNS Discusses Cohosting of Olympics

SK2406113588 (*Clandestine*) *Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea* 0200 GMT 21 Jun 88

[Unattributed special article: "Let Us Oppose the Unilateral Hosting of the Olympics and Achieve Cohosting"]

[Excerpts] The 24th Olympic Games are drawing near, and as they draw near, the entire spectrum of youths, students, and patriotic masses are further raising their voices to demand that the unilateral hosting of the Olympics be blocked and cohosting be realized and that the 1988 Olympic games be made a festival that will contribute to national reunification and world peace.

Originally, the basic idea of the Olympics was for the friendship and unity of athletes of all countries and to contribute to the cause of world peace through sound sports activities. It has been more than a matter of common sense that the Olympics should not be exploited for any political objective. Even the Olympic Charter defines that all athletes should be equally allowed to participate in the games without discrimination. Accordingly, from the beginning, it was against the basic idea and principle of the Olympics that Seoul was allowed to host the 1988 Olympics.

It is no secret that the Seoul Olympic games are being exploited for impure political objectives to permanently divide our nation into two Koreas and two nations. Ever since they announced the plan to invite the Olympics to Seoul, saying that the Seoul Olympics would become a festival to enhance the national prestige of South Korea and isolate the North, the rulers have continued to blatantly disclose their intention to exploit the sacred Olympics in promoting North-South confrontation and scheming to create two Koreas. Everything that has taken place since eloquently shows this.

Today, in this land, on the pretext of Olympic security, vast armed forces are being concentrated; large-scale war exercises are being staged every day on the land, at sea, and in the skies, posturing for northward invasion; and unprecedented anti-communist and anti-North campaigns are being carried out. At the same time, on the pretext of the Olympics, the divisive diplomatic policy to achieve so-called cross-recognition and simultaneous UN membership is becoming even more blatant. The United States and the fascist military group are also exploiting the sacred Olympics in seeking to bridge the crisis in the fascist colonial military rule, to blockade the masses' independent aspirations and demands, and to realize long-term office. [passage omitted]

The 1988 Olympic games should never become a means for the U.S. imperialists and the No Tae-u ring to create two Koreas and extend the dictatorial regime, and should never become a sacrificial offering for them to suppress the masses and ignite a new war. They should become a grand festival to seek national reconciliation and reunification, and a joint sports event of mankind that loves justice and peace. The way to this is precisely the cohosting of the Olympics.

Nevertheless, the No Tae-u ring says that the cohosting can never be, and that the North's new proposal cannot be accepted. This fully discloses the hidden intention of those who seek the permanent division of the nation and long-term office.

At present, the persons in authority are scheming to ignore our masses' voices that oppose the unilateral hosting of the Olympics and demand cohosting, on the pretext of violating the Olympic Charter and rules and the pretext of time.

But is the cohosting of the Olympics really against the Olympic rules and is it really too late to seek cohosting? We believe that cohosting can surely be realized, if we proceed from the stand that our country is one, and our nation is one, even if the country is presently divided into the North and the South. [passage omitted]

The decision for cohosting the Olympics rests with our masses and nation, not with Washington or Tokyo, or with Chongwadae, or with Samaranch. As long as the Olympics are to be held in this country and this land, not in a foreign country, and the decision for them rests with

the masses of the North and the South who are the masters of the country, and as long as the masses of the North and the South unanimously oppose the divisive Olympics and demand cohosting, there can never be any condition whatsoever that prevents cohosting from being realized. The problem is that the No Tae-u ring is desperately trying to unilaterally host the Olympics under the U.S. imperialists' instigation and protection. [passage omitted]

If unilateral hosting of the Olympics is allowed, an indelible blot will be left on the history of our nation. If the Olympics are held in one part of the divided country, it would only encourage the schemes of the domestic and foreign divisionists who seek to perpetuate the division of the Korean peninsula and create two Koreas. It would pour cold water over the people's desire for national reconciliation, unity, and reunification; further deepen North-South friction and confrontation; and further aggravate the situation on the Korean peninsula. At the same time, it would further intensify the fascist oppression and allow the No Tae-u ring to remain in power on a mountain of debt.

At present, we are at the historic moment of choosing between unilateral hosting for national division or cohosting for national reconciliation. We should not forget the lesson of national history that there are some people who have left blots on their lives because of a lack of self-conscious judgment and because of wrongful prejudices.

Indeed, now is the time for those who truly love the country and cherish the destiny of the nation to surpass their ideas, concepts, political views, religions, factions, organizations, and all of their assertions, and to gallantly turn out to oppose unilateral hosting of the Olympics in Seoul and realize cohosting.

If the cohosting of the Olympics is realized, North-South misunderstanding and distrust will be eliminated, national reconciliation and unity will be achieved, and a favorable phase will be opened in preventing the permanent division of the nation and accelerating the reunification of the country.

The cohosting of the Olympics is the only way to save the nation and love the country and people. By uniting with a single mind, the masses of the entire spectrum should turn out to oppose the unilateral hosting of the Olympics, which seeks the permanent division of the nation, and instead realize cohosting, which would contribute to national reunification.

South Korea

North Assures Moscow of Safe Olympics
SK2606001688 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 26 Jun 88 p 2

[Tex] Tokyo (YONHAP)—North Korea assured the Soviet Union that it will not hinder the Seoul Olympics, the YOMIURI SHIMBUN reported Saturday, quoting reliable U.S. government sources.

The assurance was disclosed by a Soviet source during the superpower summit held in Moscow late last month.

In answer to a request by the American side that the Soviet Union discourage Pyongyang from making any trouble, the Soviet side was quoted as saying, "There is nothing to be worried about because the Soviet Union is also taking part in the Olympics." The Soviet said also reportedly told the U.S. delegation that north Korea has made a secret promise to the Soviet Union that "Pyongyang will not make any trouble during the Olympics."

Another American source said that north Korea may have made the promise in view of the severe criticism from around the world against the bloody terrorism in Rangoon, Burma, in October 1983 and the destruction of a KAL plane last November and based on a political judgment that it is not wise to be a "global orphan" any more on the occasion of the Olympics.

North Urged To Respond Early to Dialogue Plan
SK2506010688 Seoul YONHAP in English 0103 GMT
25 Jun 88

[Text] Seoul, June 25 (YONHAP)—South Korea called on communist North Korea Saturday to respond early to its proposal for the resumption of inter-Korean dialogue.

In a statement issued on the 38th anniversary of the outbreak of the 1950-53 Korean war, the South Korean Government also appealed to the South Korean people to step up their dedication to national security.

Culture and Information Minister Chong Han-mo, chief government spokesman, said in the statement that the government will deal strictly with any movement which denies the nation's free democratic system.

Expressing deep concern over the recent ideological disintegration and destructive behavior, Chong said radical groups have emerged that sympathize with and follow the slogans of the North Korean communists.

The minority who have become prisoners of ideology are recklessly repeating the slogans such as withdrawal of American troops and co-hosting of the Olympic games, which serve the North Korean strategy of communizing the whole peninsula, he said.

Chong said the groups have even begun to believe that the Korean war, started by North Korea, was a just and proper means for reunification.

The reckless claims of those radical groups, accompanied by violence and destruction under the pretext of a search for national reunification, obstruct the efforts to achieve reunification, Chong said.

Exchanges Between Superpowers, Koreans Urged
SK2506233088 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 25 Jun 88 p 1

[Text] Foreign Minister Choe Kwang-su said yesterday that the government supports exchanges between the United States, Japan and north Korea as long as the exchanges do not affect the balance of power on the Korean peninsula and on the condition that identical exchanges are guaranteed for south Korea.

He said the "cross exchanges" can be a preparatory step for achieving cross recognition of south and north Korea by the two superpowers, Japan and China, which was proposed by President No Tae-u last year when he was a presidential candidate.

However, the minister said, the cross exchanges should be preceded by north Korea's cooperation for world peace as the exchanges are impossible when it commits acts to disrupt peace on the Korean peninsula.

"The proposal is aimed at inducing north Korea to become a responsible member of the international community by helping their liberalization," said the foreign minister in a KBS-TV talk show last night.

By proposing cross exchanges, Choe implied that the government will approve the easing or lifting, under certain conditions, of the sanctions by the United States and Japan against north Korea for its sabotage of a Korean Air passenger plane last November.

However, a Foreign Ministry official commented that the approval is possible only when north Korea pledges not to commit such provocations as the destruction of a KAL plane again.

Minister Choe also said, during the talk show, that Korea's policies toward Communist countries, often dubbed "Korea's north politik," have an objective of improving relations with those countries including the Soviet Union, China and East European countries as well as north Korea for realizing conditions for reunification of and peace on the Korean peninsula. The United States and Japan share Korea's view on the issue.

To carry out successful policies, the government needs cooperation and understanding from the people. The government, therefore, will try its utmost to reflect people's opinions in the policies, Minister Choe said.

Commenting on worries by some people that the Olympic Games in Seoul may contribute to the permanent division of the Korean peninsula, the minister said he believes the Olympics in Seoul will contribute to easing tension on the peninsula as was shown in the West and East German case. He said the two countries reached an agreement for exchanges after the Munich Olympics in 1972, which led them to join simultaneously the United Nations the next year.

O Cha-pok Says North 'Whipping Up Tension'
*SK2406234588 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 25 Jun 88 p 2*

[Text] Defense Minister O Cha-pok said north Korea is currently whipping up tension on the Korean Peninsula by building up its military muscle along the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) separating the two Koreas.

"Pyongyang has recently combat-deployed the sophisticated MiG-29 and SU-25 warplanes plus SA-5 surface-to-air missiles while stepping up psychological warfare along the DMZ," he said.

North Korea's intensified propaganda drive against the south is apparently aimed at inviting regional clashes between the armed forces of the two sides and thereby invent a pretext to wage an all-out war against the south, the minister said.

He issued the warning in a message to the south Korean defense forces on the occasion of the 38th anniversary today of the outbreak of the Korean War (1950-53).

"Despite the ever-increasing signs of a thaw between the East and West," O said, "the north Korean Communists are still sticking to their policy of communizing the south by force."

He said Communist north Korea is going all-out to disrupt the upcoming Seoul Olympics in collusion with international terrorist organizations.

He observed the Pyongyang regime has repeatedly pledged that it would not "sit idle" and see Seoul host the Summer Games by itself.

"If a war were repeated on this soil," he said, "it would pose a serious threat to the survival of the entire Korean people."

In view of the military power of the two Koreas, the minister said, almost half of the entire Korean population would be killed and more than 80 percent of the Korean Peninsula changed into wilderness if another war broke out.

O described the upcoming one-year period as the "most vulnerable period" for the security of south Korean in light of the internal and external situation.

He cited as one of the internal problems the "dangerous" unification idea recently brought up by some student activists, who are taking advantage of the government's ongoing democratization efforts.

He called on the country's defense forces to establish a "victory-without-war" preparedness, with which Seoul would be able to unify the divided land by peaceful means.

Issue of Releasing Political Prisoners Examined

Parties Adopt Resolution

*SK2406230688 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
25 Jun 88 p 1*

[Text] The three opposition parties yesterday agreed to adopt a joint resolution calling for the release of all prisoners of conscience if the government does not take a concrete action before June 29, the first anniversary of No Tae-u's democratic manifesto, which included freedom for political detainees.

The decision was made in a meeting of chief policy makers of the three opposition parties yesterday at a Seoul hotel.

They also reached an agreement to work for revision of a few "undemocratic laws" infringing upon the basic rights of the people and the daily livelihood of the citizens during the current special parliamentary session.

But they said they will study the amendments at a special Assembly panel through full partisan consultation in view of their possible impact on the nation.

The laws subject to revision include the National Security Law, the Law on the Agency for the National Security Agency, the Broadcasting Law and labor-related laws.

The three chief policy makers recalled remarks President No Tae-u made in a meeting with leaders of the three opposition parties last month.

No has said the government will release political detainees to the maximum extent.

However, they viewed that the government seemed not to be sincerely intending to release political prisoners as evidenced by remarks Prime Minister Yi Hyon-chae made Tuesday in a keynote speech at the National Assembly.

They first urged the government to set free those behind bars for political reasons before next Wednesday. They also said the opposition will issue a joint resolution at the Assembly after Wednesday highlighting their desire for the release of political prisoners.

The three chief policy makers are Kim Pong-ho of the majority opposition Party for Peace and Democracy, Hwang Pyong-tae of the second opposition Reunification Democratic Party and Kim Yong-hwan of the New Democratic Republican Party.

They said 10 anti-democratic laws must be abolished during the current House session.

They are the law for the purification of the political climate, the law governing the organization of the social reform drive, the law on the advisory council on state elders, the law on the advisory council on the peaceful unification policy, a special decree on the appointment of heads of the agro-fisheries-forestry cooperatives and the law for the fostering of the new community movement.

They also agreed to work for the revision of the National Assembly Law on the audit and inspection of state affairs and the National Assembly Law on testimony during the on-going parliamentary session.

They will meet next Wednesday for further consultation.

Release of Dissidents 'Imminent'

SK2506053088 Seoul YONHAP in English
0430 GMT 25 Jun 88

[Text] Seoul, June 25 (YONHAP)—A concrete government action is imminent for the release of imprisoned political dissidents, opposition leader Kim Tae-chung said Saturday.

Kim, president of the leading opposition Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD), told reporters that Prime Minister Yi Hyon-chaе gave him a hint of such an early government action at a dinner hosted by Yi for him Friday.

Kim said Yi disclosed a very positive attitude on the part of the government toward the release of the jailed dissidents.

The release of the so-called prisoners of conscience has been a key political issue since the April general elections in which three opposition parties—the PPD, the Reunification Democratic Party (RDP) and the New Democratic Republican Party (NDRP)—won a combined majority of National Assembly seats and the government party fell to the status of a minority party.

On Friday, the PPD, RDP and NDRP threatened to support a joint resolution calling for the release of imprisoned dissidents unless the government takes action by June 29.

June 29 marks the first anniversary of a declaration of democratic reforms by then government party Chairman No Tae-u, now president, in response to massive popular protests demanding a constitutional amendment for a direct presidential election system.

The government has said that a total of 701 dissidents still remain behind bars, including 104 convicts, while adding that not many of them meet the government standards for leniency.

Opposition parties, which have claimed that more than 1,000 dissidents are still in jail, have failed to provide names for many of them.

Kim also said he demanded at the dinner that President No take the leading role in the efforts to remove the authoritarian legacy of the government of former president Chon Tu-hwan for the sake of political development and stability of the No government.

If the government takes the leading role, our party will cooperate, he said.

In addition, Kim said he called on the government to take a more confident and positive stance toward North Korea in regard to reunification.

He denounced the government's reunification policies by saying they have been prejudiced and oppressive in reducing the footing of moderates while providing violent radicals with a cause for existence.

Earlier this month, tens of thousands of riot police using tear gas thwarted attempts by thousands of students to march to the border with North Korea for a planned meeting with North Korean students to discuss reunification and the upcoming Olympic games.

DJP Seeks To Join Opposition

SK2606010788 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
26 Jun 88 p 2

[Text] The ruling Democratic Justice Party tries to join in a concerted move by the three opposition parties to press for the release of political prisoners, floor leader Kim Yun-whan said yesterday.

He told reporters, "Our party will seek a joint action with the opposition for the demand of a solution to the issue relating to prisoners."

Ruling and opposition leaders are expected to urge the administration to release the prisoners, in their separate speeches to plenary parliamentary sessions this week.

"After their speeches, concrete steps will be taken to present a joint resolution or recommendation with regard to the issue," he went on.

DJP secretary general Pak Chon-pyong also said that a consistent position of the government party is to set free political detainees despite a strong objection by the relevant ministries.

It is, however, uncertain whether the opposition parties would accept the DJP's offer because there are wide differences in the rival camp's definition of political prisoners and consequently in the scope of the leniency.

The opposition parties demanded a wholesale release of all those who have been criminally charged with crimes having political implications, arguing that the number should be around 500.

Chief policy-makers of the three parties Friday agreed to motion a resolution for the release of what they called prisoners of conscience.

Meanwhile, the DJP has maintained that those involved in violence of sympathizing with communism should be excluded from clemency even though they have been convicted for illegal political activities.

Dissidents Set for Release 29 June

SK2706002988 Seoul YONHAP in English
0020 GMT 27 June 88

[Text] Seoul, June 27 (YONHAP)—The government plans to parole nearly 100 dissidents and other prisoners shortly, an informed source said Monday.

The source, who requested anonymity, said the government, however, has not yet made a decision on the detailed list for the leniency to be granted on the occasion of the first anniversary of the June 29 Declaration of Democratic Reforms.

On June 29 last year, President No Tae-u, then ruling party chairman during the administration of former president Chon Tu-hwan, declared democratic reforms in response to massive antigovernment demonstrations demanding a constitutional amendment. The government plans to conduct a monthly parole on a larger scale this month to include political dissidents on the occasion of the June 29 declaration's first anniversary, the source said.

Last Friday, three major opposition parties, which hold a majority of National Assembly seats, threatened to support a joint resolution calling for the release of jailed dissidents if the government fails to take action by June 29.

The government has disclosed that 701 dissidents are behind bars, including 104 convicts.

DJP Invites Dissidents to Reunification Debate

SK2406232088 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 25 Jun 88 p 1

[Text] The ruling party is to ask the government to arrange exchanges of south and north Korean students before Aug. 15.

It will also call for revision of the National Security Law and other laws to encourage public debate on reunification, it was decided by an ad hoc DJP panel on peaceful reunification yesterday morning.

The decisions will be conveyed to Prime Minister Yi Hyon-chae and other cabinet members soon, panel head Yi Se-ki said.

Panel members agreed the government should take the initiative in south-north contacts between college students.

About 10,000 students tried to march to the truce village of Panmunjom June 10 to meet their north Korean counterparts but tens of thousands of riot police troops blocked all the roads to the conference site.

The students plan to attempt a similar march to the border village Aug. 15, largely as a show of their dissent over the government's "insincere" efforts to promote exchange with the north.

Responding to the students' move, President No Tae-u said in an interview with a Seoul daily this month that he will actively push for exchanges of visits by south and north Korean students.

The DJP will ask the government to stop searching for the students who organized the June 10 march to Panmunjom, Yi said.

Yi said he will also suggest the government free 51 college students arrested during the attempt to walk to the truce village.

Most of them were detained in and after violent clashes with riot police, who fired thousands of rounds of tear gas to block the march.

Recent unconfirmed reports indicate the government plans a massive amnesty June 29 to celebrate No's declaration of democratic reforms a year ago.

Many "political" detainees are likely to be freed and have their civil rights restored, the reports said. The government has refused to comment.

The ruling party plans a pannational public debate on unification at the Sejong Cultural Center on Monday, Yi said.

Dissident leaders and students have been invited, he said.

Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and Rev. Pak Hyong-kyu have accepted invitations, and Chon Sang-hun, leader of Seoul National University's Student Council, has given a positive response, Yi said.

Opposition lawmakers as well as scholars from colleges and research institutes will also attend, he said.

The debate, the first of its kind in the nation, is to seek a consensus on unification.

Students Storm State Prosecutor's Office
OW2506032688 Tokyo KYODO in English 0306 GMT 25 Jun 88

[Text] Seoul, June 25 KYODO—A group of about 10 students hurled firebombs as they stormed into a State Prosecutors' Office Saturday morning and occupied an office on the building's second floor, police said.

The students shouted slogans calling for the execution of former President Chun Doo-hwan for crushing an uprising in the southwestern city of Kwangju in 1980 which killed at least 189 people.

Police said they arrested four of the participants for questioning but the students remain in control of the office.

Students Stage Sit-in
SK2506045488 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0400 GMT 25 Jun 88

[Report by Kim Chong-ok from Prosecutor's Office Building]

[Text] At around 1100 [0100 GMT] today, 14 college students, including Pak Il-nam, chairman of the General Student Association of Chungang University, intruded into the compound of the Prosecutor's Office in Soso-mun-dong, Chung-ku, Seoul, and staged a sit-in. However, all of them were arrested and taken into police custody.

The students assembled individually outside the main gate of the Prosecutor's Office. Then they separately intruded into the building at the same time at the signal of a student throwing a firebomb through the main gate and the west gate of the building.

They went up to the second floor by stairways and entered an office. The students broke three windows in the office; came out to the porch, throwing firebombs; and staged a sit-in, shouting the slogans "Irregularities and corruption of the Fifth Republic should be investigated!" and "The ringleader of the Kwangju massacre should be punished!"

As police approached the second floor, they threw a firebomb into the hallway. The police entered a room next to the office occupied by the students and fired powdered fire extinguishers and gas bombs at the students. The police arraigned all of the students in 15 minutes.

It is revealed that the students who intruded into the Prosecutor's Office Building are members of the Seoul District Student General Association, including Pak Il-nam, chairman of the General Student Association of Chungang University, and students of Hanyang University and Hansin University.

The arrested students were taken to Namdaemun Police Station and presently are under investigation.

Parties Urge Debate on Reunification
SK2506235988 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 26 Jun 88 p 2

[Text] The four rival political parties yesterday called for debate on national reunification in their separate statements on the occasion of the 38th anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War.

The ruling Democratic Justice Party urged the government to spearhead effort to realize inter-Korea exchanges and map out measures to satisfy the desire of the post-war generation for reunification.

The opposition Party for Peace and Democracy expressed the hope that reunification be realized through implementation of full democracy and opening of debate.

The Reunification Democratic Party also urged the government to work out policies for national reunification based on national harmony and re-orientation of anti-Communist theory.

The New Democratic Republican Party also hoped a new era paving the way for reunification will soon be opened, so that the human rights are respected and unification debate is activated.

Generation Gap in Reunification Issues Noted
SK2406231688 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 25 Jun 88 p 3

["News in Review" column by city editor Chong Un-pung: "Generation Gap Deep on Unification Issue"]

[Text] Just 38 years ago today, North Korea made a thrust into the South, initiating the first internecine war on the Korean peninsula in its modern history.

The war lasted for three years until a truce agreement was signed.

War damage during the three years was unspeakably cruel and miserable. In some sense, it was madness. The bitter memories still haunt the people who experienced the war. Those in their late 40's or older may recollect, vividly or faintly, the war, which surely had a serious effect on the formation of their character and view of life.

Any one who did not experience the war can not adequately fathom what it was like. This writer was in grade school at that time and can recall some bitter memories.

Crammed into a small room of a Buddhist hermitage on a deep mountain, in cold winter days, people from several families were not allowed to sleep on their backs or stomachs. In order to save space, they had to sleep on their sides, which may sound like a lie, but it is the truth.

People who endured those hardships tend to think that they are blessed to live to see this nation has grown to what it is now from the ruins and debris of the Korean War.

But the young generation, who only heard of the war without direct experience, tend to think "freely" without any obsession of the war. This could be an important factor of the generation gap, if it is there.

To the young generation, the bitterness of war is not very real, because they have had no experience. No matter how real a motion picture may depict a war, it is only a story on the silver screen.

The Korean War cannot be disassociated with the tragic division of Korea. The Korean peninsula was divided at its waistline in a post World War II arrangement.

Against the will of the Korean people, the United States and the Soviet Union arbitrarily drew the line dividing the Korean peninsula to their liking. The two are no doubt responsible for the national division. Still, Koreans share the blame for having allowed such partitioning to say nothing of having been so weak as to allow Japan to annex Korea.

It is no use crying over spilt milk. There is no way but to accept the current stark reality and think of what best suits the interest of the nation.

Now student activists are girding up their loins for a struggle for national unification.

Their zeal is so strong as to try to achieve it over the shoulders of the government.

No one is opposed to unification. Still, achieving it is a different matter. It is not as simple as students may think it to be.

Whatever rhetorics, it is North Korea that started the Korean War, which only resulted in making people in the divided halves to loathe each other, be it the results of political maneuvering or not.

At the time of the division, those in power, in South and North Korea, can hardly escape responsibility. The man in power in South Korea passed away. But, Kim Il-song, who ruled North Korea for more than 40 years, is still at the pinnacle of the power.

In such a situation, genuine dialogue between the two sides may be hard to come by. It may not be too much or rash to think that genuine dialogue can be possible only when those involved directly in the Korean War are gotten rid of.

Economic development which the nation has achieved, despite all the hardships in the past, did not come of itself. It is the results of hard work of the people, in the established generation, which young students should acknowledge despite faults.

Korea's development from the war devastation was so well acknowledged that the 24th Olympics is to be staged in Seoul.

Students in the age of "Strum und Drang" may harbor an illusion of jumping to unification. But they should be wise enough to give a second thought that there are people who think otherwise. Students are not the masters of the nation.

Student activities who wanted dialogue with their North Korean counterparts in Panmunjom on June 10 were successful in awakening the people's long-dormant desire for unification although the meeting was foiled.

The government is planning to open up north-south exchange at all levels, including students.

On the occasion of the 38th anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War, unification issue flashes in the minds of the people. No matter how desirable unification may be, internecine war should be avoided by all means by not allowing any room for North Korea to be tempted to another adventurism.

NRDP Head Vows To Help Stage Olympics
OW2406134788 Tokyo KYODO in English
1209 GMT 24 Jun 88

[Text] Seoul, June 24 KYODO—Former Prime Minister Kim Chong-pil, head of the third largest opposition New Republican Democratic Party, to whom Kanemaru paid a 30-minute visit, vowed to help the government of President No stage the Seoul Olympics successfully, the Japanese officials said.

Kim told Kanemaru that he is giving almost full marks for preparations under way for the games.

Kim was quoted as saying that he believes it unlikely that North Korea will take part in the Seoul Olympics and that Pyongyang would not conduct terrorist attacks against the Olympics because both the Soviet Union and China are sending athletes.

Kanemaru has a long personal friendship with Kim Chong-pil, who was prime minister under the assassinated President Pak Chung-hui. He placed fourth in the December presidential election, following No and the two prominent opposition leaders Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung.

Japanese Justice Minister Pays Official Visit

Plans To Discuss Olympics

OW2606082088 Tokyo KYODO in English 0642 GMT
26 Jun 88

[Text] Seoul, June 26 KYODO—Japanese Justice Minister Yukio Hayashida flew to Seoul Sunday to discuss the upcoming Olympic games and other issues with South Korean leaders.

Hayashida, the first incumbent justice minister to visit South Korea in 21 years, will meet with his counterpart Chong Hae-chang and pay a courtesy call on President No Tae-u during his stay here until Thursday.

He is expected to detail Japan's plan to tighten its immigration controls toward the Seoul Olympic games which begin September 17. Some 80 percent of the games' foreign spectators are expected to fly to Seoul via Japan and many athletes are scheduled to conduct pre-Olympic training in Japan.

Hayashida will also discuss the legal status of third generation Korean residents in Japan and the revised Alien Registration Law, which basically limits the fingerprinting of foreigners to one time only.

Promises Help for Olympics

OW2706060888 Tokyo KYODO in English 0514 GMT
27 Jun 88

[Text] Seoul, June 27 KYODO—Japanese Justice Minister Yukio Hayashida assured South Korea on Monday of Japan's full-fledged help for a terrorism-free Seoul Olympics this fall, Japanese officials said.

Hayashida told South Korean Justice Minister Chong Hae-chang that Japan will begin a thorough immigration check at all airports and seaports on July 1 to deter terrorists from entering and leaving Japan.

Hayashida, who is on a five-day visit through Thursday as the first Japanese justice minister to visit here in 21 years, promised to beef up immigration staff at four major airports and three seaports in August.

They are Tokyo International Airport at Haneda, southern Tokyo, New Tokyo International Airport at Narita, Chiba Prefecture, and Osaka International and Nagoya International Airports.

The seaports are Osaka and Shimonoseki, Yamaguchi Prefecture, which have car ferry services linking them with Pusan in South Korea, and Niigata on the Sea of Japan coast, the officials said.

Hayashida and Chung agreed to maintain closer contact between immigration authorities of the two countries to contain international terrorism, they said.

During a summit meeting with South Korean President No Tae-u on his inauguration last February 25, Japan's Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita promised to provide all-out cooperation for a safe Seoul Olympics.

Takeshita plans to attend the September 17 opening ceremony of the Seoul Olympics, which will last through October 2.

South Korea is concerned that Japan might be used as a base by international terrorists targeting the games since a pair of alleged North Korean agents linked to the loss of a South Korean airliner last November used false Japanese passports, Japanese sources said.

Three Japanese Red Army activists—Osamu Maruoka, Yasuhiro Shibata and Hiroshi Sensui—were also arrested between late last year and early June.

Japanese police are ready to tighten security measures to protect foreign athletes from North America and Europe, many of whom are scheduled to train near Tokyo before going to Seoul, they said.

Looks at Koreans' Legal Status

OW2706094788 Tokyo KYODO in English 0600 GMT
27 Jun 88

[Text] Seoul, June 27 KYODO—Japanese Justice Minister Yukio Hayashida on Monday promised efforts to improve the legal status of young Korean residents in Japan who are not covered in an existing Status-of-Koreans Agreement, Japanese officials said.

Hayashida, in a meeting here with South Korean Justice Minister Chong Hae-chang, assured the latter of what he called a "satisfactory solution for both countries" to Seoul's demand that their status be legally authorized.

The Japanese minister told Chong that in handling the matter he would pay attention to its historical background and to the importance of bilateral friendship.

This meant Hayashida indicated that Japan will respond to South Korea's call for a revision of the present Status-of-Koreans Agreement, signed in 1960, the officials said.

Under the agreement, Japan provides residency to what it calls first- and second-generation Koreans but not to third-generation ones.

Japanese officials define "first-generation Koreans" as those who have lived in Japan since before World War II and any children born before January 16, 1971.

The "second-generation Koreans" are defined as children of the first-generation Koreans who were born on or after January 17, 1971.

As of January 1987 the Korean community in Japan numbered 677,900, most of whom are descendants of those taken to Japan during its 1910-1945 colonial rule of the whole Korean peninsula.

Bilateral Economic Talks With Taiwan Continue

Agreement Reached on Trade

SK2506060488 Seoul YONHAP in English
0534 GMT 25 Jun 88

[Text] Seoul, June 25 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Taiwan have reached agreement at an economic ministers meeting to increase their mutual trade volume from last year's 1.31 billion U.S. dollars to 2 billion dollars this year.

Both countries also decided to further boost their trade volume to 3 billion dollars in 1989.

The agreements came during the 21st Korea-Taiwan economic ministers meeting which opened Tuesday and closed Saturday. Finance Minister Sakong Il headed the Korean delegation while the Taiwanese side was led by Li Ta-hai, minister of economic affairs.

Officials of the two sides, however, failed to reach agreement on a wider opening of Taiwan's market for Korean fruit and automobiles. Debate over unresolved issues is expected to resume next month.

Taiwan pledged to import ginseng exclusively from Korea and grant favors to Korean firms in Taiwan's upcoming international bidding for tea imports.

Both sides agreed to increase cooperation in currency and foreign exchange policy, to step up bilateral ties between small- and medium-sized firms, and to increase technological ties.

They reached agreement on joint efforts to cope with their countries' trade deficits with Japan, to increase the barter trade of Korean pears and Taiwanese bananas, and to step up annual exchanges of 20 young farmers from each country.

Joint Statement Issued

OW2506190988 Taipei CNA in English 0934 GMT
25 Jun 88

[Text] Seoul, June 25 (CNA)—A wide range of agreements were reached between Chinese and Korean economic officials before the 21st bilateral ministerial-level meeting on economic cooperation concluded Saturday.

The two delegations reviewed their past achievements and exchanged views on the recent development of world economy as well as in both countries economies, and concluded that expansion of economic cooperation between the two countries would be of mutual benefit.

In a joint statement adopted at the concluding session, both sides agreed that both governments exert every effort to enhance economic cooperation in major projects.

They also agreed to expand the exchanges of information and visits on monetary and foreign exchange management and on foreign investments.

Both sides exchanged views on the role newly industrialized countries (NICs), which they are, should take in the world economy in light of the growing importance of their economies.

They agreed that both countries should enhance cooperation in the maritime industry, the rural development program and exchange of economists.

In addition, both delegations were of the same opinion that symposia jointly held by the two countries on industrial development policies and small and medium businesses proved worth-while and thus should be continued.

Finding that there is "ample room for the expansion of bilateral trade," the two sides discussed in depth the removal of trade barriers and reduction of import duties in search of ways to boost two-way trade.

Split on Auto Imports Noted

SK2606234688 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD
in English 26 Jun 88 p 6

[By staff reporter Choe Nam-hyon]

[Text] Trade relations between Korea and Taiwan may sour over Taiwanese imports of Korean-made passenger cars.

Taiwan insists on quota imports from Korea for the protection of its domestic auto industry.

But Korea maintains it is discriminated by the quota system, from which Taiwanese imports from North America and Europe are excluded.

It demands Taiwan either abolish the quota system or permit Korea to regulate its exports voluntarily within its 30 percent share of Taiwan's passenger-car imports.

Taiwan imported 44,967 cars last year, or 22.4 percent of Taiwan's demand, according to figures provided by the Korean Ministry of Trade and Industry.

In protest against Taiwan's quota imports of Korean cars, the Korean government is considering diverting its imports of some Taiwanese products elsewhere, an official from the ministry said yesterday.

"Our auto firms demand retaliation against Taiwan," said the official who did not want to be identified.

No official from the Embassy of the Republic of China in Seoul was available for comment on the Korean threat of retaliation.

Taiwan offered at just-ended bilateral economic talks to increase the quota of 2,250 cars last year to 3,000 units this year to allay Korean's discontent.

Korea turned down the Taiwanese offer. The two sides decided to hold another round of talks on Korea's auto exports in Taipei next month.

"We are not beggars asking for miniscule quota increases annually," said the ministry official. "We deserve fair treatment all the more because of our trade deficit with Taiwan (which was \$203 million last year)."

No restrictions were imposed on car exports to Taiwan until 1977.

But Taiwan began to impose quotas on imports from North America and Europe and ban imports from Japan and other countries in April 1977.

Taiwan said its restrictions on auto trade were designed to reduce its trade deficit with Japan.

In November 1977, it granted a quota of 400 cars to Korea.

Apparently keeping in mind its trade surplus with the United States and European countries, Taiwan lifted its quota restrictions on auto imports from those countries in 1979-80.

"That's when Taiwanese discrimination against Korea began," said the official from the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

The ban on imports from Japan, he said, did not hurt Japanese auto makers much, who detoured the trade barrier and entered the Taiwanese market in joint ventures.

More than 100,000 cars have been assembled by the joint ventures with parts imported in the form of complete kits from Nissan, Honda and other Japanese auto makers, he said.

"Auto parts are imported at concessional tariff rate of 25 percent," he said. "The tariff rate for an assembled car runs as high as 42.5 percent."

Japanese auto makers also benefit from Taiwan's free imports from the United States, he said.

Taiwan, he said, imported 385 Honda Accords assembled in the United States last year.

The sales of Japanese cars assembled in the United States are forecast at 1,500 this year, he said.

If Taiwan stops discriminating against Korean cars, he said, the Korean government is willing to encourage domestic auto firms to import parts from Taiwan.

For this, he said, the Korean government can arrange exhibitions of Taiwanese parts in Seoul.

Aviation Security Meeting Set for 28-29 June
SK2706054488 Seoul YONHAP in English
0540 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] Seoul, June 27 (YONHAP)—Asian and Pacific nations which operate airline services to and from Seoul are scheduled to hold an aviation security conference here from June 28-29, the Transportation Ministry said Monday.

The conference is designed to ensure security for the airports and civil airlines of the participating Asian and Pacific nations—the United States, Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, the Philippines, Malaysia, Thailand and South Korea—against possible terrorist acts by North Korean agents before and after the Seoul Olympics.

High-ranking government officials and representatives of each country's aviation companies will attend the conference while a number of related organizations including the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the International Federation of Airline Pilots Associations (IFALPA) will also send observers to the meeting, according to the ministry.

The participants are expected to discuss ways to strengthen exit-entry control and check-reference procedures, and seek joint countermeasures against possible terrorist acts.

South Korea's delegation, to be led by Transportation Minister Yi Pom-chun, will brief participants on factors which are harmful to security on the Korean peninsula.

Japan and the United States will also provide briefings on international terrorist acts, and recent trends and methods used by terrorist groups.

Marine Product Tariffs on U.S. Goods Discussed
SK2406064588 Seoul YONHAP in English
0614 GMT 24 Jun 88

[Text] Seoul, June 24 (YONHAP)—The United States demanded that Korea open its market for 18 marine products and lower its tariff rates on 16 marine goods during fisheries talks between the two nations here Thursday and Friday.

During the meeting held at the fisheries administration, the United States demanded that Korea liberalize imports of such marine products as frozen Alaska pollack, frozen mackerel, frozen shrimp, frozen eel and frozen abalone.

It also called for tariff cuts on such items as Alaska pollack, tuna, salmon, herring, sablefish and flatfish from the current 20 percent to less than 10 percent.

In response, the Korean side said imports of seven marine products have already been liberalized out of 18 which the United States demanded market opening. The

Korean delegation said it will hold discussions later with relevant authorities on opening the market for the other 11 items. The seven products include frozen salmon, frozen herring, fresh tuna, canned shrimp and canned salmon.

The Korean side said Korea has applied a low tariff rate of two percent on three items including Alaska pollack and plaice caught in joint fishing operations with the United States, while a tariff rate of 10 percent has been applied on sable fish. The Korean side said it will consider reducing tariff rates on 12 other products from the current 20 percent to eight percent until 1993.

Meanwhile, the Korean side also asked the U.S. delegation to allot a fishing quota to Korea for the Northern Pacific Ocean in the latter half of this year and to increase joint fishing operations between the two countries. A fishing quota was not allocated to Korea this year as a result of the U.S. policy of monopolizing fishing in the waters under its control.

Carmen J. Blondin, deputy assistant secretary for trade affairs at the U.S. Department of Commerce, headed the U.S. side, while Ha Song-hwan, director-general of the Fisheries Promotion Office at the Fisheries Administration, led the Korean delegation.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Deputy Premier Says Mahathir Not Dictator
BK2506110088 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
1025 GMT 25 Jun 88

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, June 25 (OANA-BERNAMA)—The prime minister of Malaysia, Dr Mahathir Mohamad, is not a dictator as claimed by certain groups; on the contrary he is a gentle person, his deputy Abdul Ghafar Baba said Saturday.

It was well nigh impossible for any dictator to administer a country such as Malaysia which practises the democratic system of government, the deputy prime minister said in Kuala Terengganu, a town on the east coast of peninsular Malaysia.

Replying to points raised at a dialogue with community leaders Ghafar said a dictator is not chosen by the people but appoints himself as administrator.

Under a dictatorial administration, there is no Parliament and all decisions are made by the dictator himself and there is no need to discuss anything or refer to anyone.

Dr Mahathir is a leader chosen by the people and had to undergo two tests before being accepted as prime minister. He had to win the election in his constituency and also the post of UMNO [United Malays National Organizations] president, to qualify him to become the prime minister of the country. Mahathir had won both.

UMNO is the dominant partner of the ruling 13-party National Front.

Ghafar said all decisions, be they at the UMNO Supreme Council meeting or in the cabinet, are made on the basis of taking a vote and all party members and ministers are given the opportunity to air their respective views.

Ghafar said there were times when the prime minister's proposals had been defeated through voting in the party Supreme Council or at cabinet level and he always abides by the decision of the majority.

He also said Dr Mahathir was heading other ministries for the simple reason he is hardworking. The prime minister is also home minister and minister of justice.

He regretted the suggestion that the prime minister is holding these posts because he wanted more pay.

He said this was not true because any minister, including the prime minister and the deputy prime minister, is not eligible to receive more than one salary even though they may be heading other ministries.

Official on Decision To Close Refugee Camp
BK2506115188 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
1109 GMT 25 Jun 88

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, June 25 (OANA/BERNAMA)—Malaysia's decision to close Pulau Bidong as a transit island for Vietnamese refugees by next April is final and refugees arriving in Malaysia between now and then face a "very uncertain future", senior Malaysian official said here Saturday.

Foreign Ministry Secretary-General Yusof Hitam said since the one-year deadline given by the government last April for the closure of Pulau Bidong, an island off the east coast of Malaysia, measures have been taken to close the "gates" to the transit island and efforts stepped up to resettle some 13,000 there in third countries.

Yusof said by next April, all facilities in Malaysia, both onshore and offshore, that have to do with Vietnamese refugees will be closed down.

In stressing Malaysia's firm stand over the matter, he said all refugees arriving in Malaysia after the deadline will be treated "differently and certainly not as refugees in the accepted definition of the word".

He said there will be no longer Pulau Bidong-type transit camps with facilities provided by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and if the refugees kept on coming, "they will face a very uncertain future."

In the meantime, he said, Malaysia will be addressing itself to an outstanding "critical" aspect of the problem.

This involved the thousands of refugees who had remained for as long as six years on Pulau Bidong because no countries are prepared to accept them. They belonged to two groups—the physically handicapped and those not possessing any "economic skills".

Yusof pointed out Malaysia had shown utmost compassion throughout the 13 years it was bearing the brunt of the Vietnamese refugee problem and was against such conditions being set by recipient countries, especially the rejection of refugees who will not make "good investments".

"This can be likened to white slavery or buying and selling of human beings and we reject this. The refugees should be accepted on face value," he added.

Yusof said repatriation will be "the name of the game" for Malaysia in resolving the problem after next April.

Malaysia had made several diplomatic contacts with Vietnam to get it to stop the outflow of its people or alternatively, to arrange the outflow through the UN-sponsored Orderly Departure Program (ODP).

Vietnam was also being approached to initiate steps to take back its fleeing citizens, he added.

"Repatriation would indeed become a major part of the exercise for us, and so far Vietnam has not said it is not prepared to accept its people back," Yusof said.

He said that following such diplomatic contacts, Malaysia will also hold direct talks with Vietnam, and the first of such talks is expected to start "very soon".

When asked about Vietnam's reaction so far to Malaysia's effort on the matter, he said he could not say whether its official were "keen or very keen but they were attentive to our efforts. I think this is because they have other priorities".

Yusof also said that ASEAN was pushing for an international conference on refugees, adding that Malaysia is hopeful that the meeting could take place before the deadline for the closure of Pulau Bidong.

He continued it is equally vital for the refugee recipient countries to stop playing that role so as to bring about the eventual solution to the problem.

Settlement Talks To Continue

BK2606090488 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English
0315 GMT 26 Jun 88

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, June 26 (OANA/BERNAMA)—A Malaysian minister said Sunday the government has no choice but to close down the Vietnamese illegal immigrants transit camp on Pulau Bidong, an island on the east coast of peninsular Malaysia, because third countries are dragging their feet in accepting these people.

Deputy Foreign Minister Dr Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan said the camp is also to be closed in view of the cool response from the Vietnamese Government to a Malaysian call to it to study and stem the unauthorized migration of its citizens.

Although third countries have initially expressed willingness to accept the Vietnamese for resettlement, he said, there are still 13,000 refugees who had yet to find a new home.

He told reporters in Ipoh City, about 200 km north of here, Malaysia has been adopting a humanitarian attitude in giving them temporary refuge on Pulau Bidong with the hope that big countries will also adopt a similar attitude.

Unfortunately, the process of getting the refugees resettled in third countries has dragged on, he added.

Dr Abdullah Fadzil said although the government has decided to close the camps from next April, it will continue to talk with the third countries concerned to clear the 13,000 Vietnamese illegal immigrants still remaining in Malaysia.

Malaysia has also urged the United Nations to have a special agenda on the refugee problem in its coming session.

Singapore's Lee Kuan Yew Arrives for Visit

BK2706063488 Kuala Lumpur International Service
in English 0600 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew arrived in Kuala Lumpur this morning for a 2-day working visit to Malaysia. Mr Lee and his wife were received at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport by Foreign Minister Datuk Abu Hassan Omar and several Foreign Ministry officials. The Singapore prime minister will hold discussions with his Malaysian counterpart Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir Mohamed this afternoon. [sentence indistinct]

Singapore

Indonesian Military Leader Ends Visit 24 June

BK2406120888 Singapore Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 24 Jun 88

[Text] The Indonesian armed forces commander in chief, General Tri Sutrisno, has left Singapore after a 3-day visit. The chief of General Staff, Major General Winston Choo, was at the Paya Lebar Airport to see him off. Also present were the commander of the Republic of Singapore Air Force, Brigadier General Michael Teo, and the commander of the Republic of Singapore Navy, Colonel James Leo.

Gen Sutrisno, who was accompanied by his wife, Mrs Tuti Sutrisno, was in Singapore at the invitation of Gen Choo. It was his first official visit as commander in chief of the Indonesian Armed Forces. During his stay, Gen Sutrisno called on the prime minister and the first deputy prime minister, Mr Goh Chok Tong.

Cambodia

Hun Sen Views Jakarta Meeting, Japanese Ties

BK2406151088 Phnom Penh SPK in English
1335 GMT 24 Jun 88

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK June 24—"China and the Pol Pot junta remain the biggest obstacle to the Hun Sen-Sihanouk meeting as well as the informal meeting scheduled for next month in Indonesia," said Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, at his reception in Phnom Penh yesterday of the delegation of the Japanese-Vietnamese Parliamentary Association which was in Kampuchea for a visit.

Hun Sen, who is also member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea and foreign minister of the PRK, informed his guests of the correct position of the PRK in quest of a political solution to the Kampuchean problem aimed at ensuring peace and stability in the region.

With regard to the "cocktail party", the Kampuchean leader reiterated the PRK's support for the fundamental principles elaborated in the joint statement issued by Vietnam and Indonesia in Ho Chi Minh City on July 29, 1987. However, Hun Sen said, certain countries have tried to misinterpret the non-official meeting between Kampuchean parties in an attempt to turn it into a dialogue between Vietnam and the tripartite coalition government or a meeting between Vietnam and Sihanouk. He said that such an attempt would only [word indistinct] the talks into an impasse.

For its part, Hun Sen said, the PRK is prepared to take part in the informal meeting to be held in Indonesia and will make active contribution to its success.

He said the settlement of the Kampuchean problem should be viewed from the two aspects, the national and international ones. The settlement of the Kampuchean problem must respect the Kampuchean people's right to self-determination. Two main things which have captured much attention from the world public are the presence of Vietnamese Army volunteers in Kampuchea and the threat of Pol Pot's return to power. Vietnam and the PRK have agreed upon the total withdrawal of the Vietnamese Army volunteers in Kampuchea in 1990, therefore the thing which remains to be tackled with is to ward off the threat of the return of Pol Pot which has been backed by China. Any political solution to the Kampuchean problem must guarantee the non-return of Pol Pot and unquestionably the Kampuchean people will not accept any solution which permit the come-back of the genocidal Pol Pot gang.

Hun Sen recalled that his two rounds of talks with Prince Norodom Sihanouk have breached the deadlock and they have reached agreements on some fundamental principles.

Regrettably, Hun Sen said, Prince Sihanouk has declined to resume the talks to settle the outstanding issues. The obstacle to this dialogue has been created by China and the Pol Pot clique.

Besides the "cocktail party" initiated by Indonesia, the PRK supports Prince Norodom Sihanouk's initiative for a meeting between warring Kampuchean factions under the auspices of leaders of the Non-Aligned Movement. The PRK is ready to participate in the meeting in search for a peaceful solution to the Kampuchean problem.

On the Kampuchea-Japan relation, the Kampuchean chairman said although the Japanese Government supports the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea, we maintain friendly ties with the Japanese people. There are many visits to Kampuchea paid by Japanese tourists and businessmen; their activities have contributed to the maintenance of relations between the two peoples.

But over the past years, he said, the Japanese Government has adopted an incorrect attitude toward the PRK. It has rendered support to the Pol Pot gang, one of the factions in the tripartite government.

With such a stance, Hun Sen noted, Japan cannot play a role as a mediator in the settlement of the Kampuchean problem. The Japanese Government has rejected the visits to Japan by delegations of the Kampuchean party and mass organizations but it has accepted the trips of Ieng Sary's wife and other Pol Potist criminals.

On the other hand, he went on, the Japanese Government recently declared that it is prepared to reopen Kampuchea's embassy in Tokyo in service of Prince Sihanouk during his tour of Japan.

Although these realities have hindered the possibility for the establishment of Kampuchea-Japan relations, the Kampuchean side has always looked forward with optimism and it is convinced that the Japanese Government will show a realistic attitude toward the Kampuchean issue and that it will contribute to the reconstruction of war-torn Kampuchea.

For his part, Yoshio Sakurauchi, former minister for foreign affairs of Japan, on behalf of the delegation, thanked the chairman of the PRK Council of Ministers for his warm hospitality and pledged to do all he can to persuade the Japanese Government to take a reasonable attitude toward the efforts for the peaceful settlement of the Kampuchean issue.

He stated that the genocidal Pol Pot clique must be punished for their unpardonable crimes they had committed against their own people.

The talks took place in an atmosphere of cordiality and frankness.

Sakurauchi Cites Hun Sen Remarks

OW2606083488 Tokyo KYODO in English 0804 GMT
26 Jun 88

[Text] Bangkok, June 26 KYODO—Premier Hun Sen of the Vietnamese-backed Kampuchean Government has said that Vietnam will withdraw all its administrative advisers from Kampuchea by the end of this year, it was revealed here Saturday.

Hun Sen made the statement during his meeting in Phnom Penh with a visiting Japanese parliamentary delegation on Thursday.

The disclosure came in a press conference here by Yoshio Sakurauchi, former Japanese foreign minister and the head of the suprapartisan Japanese parliamentary delegation.

Touching on the earlier announcement that Vietnam will remove 50,000 of its troops from Kampuchea by year's end, Hun Sen said the figure would actually exceed 50,000.

Sakurauchi said Hun Sen cited the disarming of the Khmer Rouge (or Pol Pot) group as a condition for reaching a political solution to the nine-year Kampuchean conflict.

The Phnom Penh leadership under leader Heng Samrin will not accept any solution which would allow the Pol Pot faction to resume power, Sakurauchi quoted Hun Sen as saying.

The Khmer Rouge is one of three parties in the anti-Vietnam resistance coalition. The two others are a group led by Prince Norodom Sihanouk and the anti-communist Khmer People's National Liberation Front under Son Sann.

Regarding the Indonesian-proposed "cocktail party" informal talks on the conflict scheduled for late July in Indonesia, Hun Sen said his government does not object to the participation in the talks by Khmer Rouge members other than Pol Pot and Ieng Sary, Sakurauchi told reporters.

This means that the Hanoi-backed Heng Samrin government will accept Khieu Samphan, the leader of the Khmer Rouge and vice premier of the resistance coalition, as one of the partners at the "cocktail party" talks.

Chea Sim Receives Japanese Group

*BK2506112188 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 0430 GMT 25 Jun 88*

[Text] On the morning of 24 June at the Chamka Mon State Palace, Comrade Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the National Assembly and the KUFNCD National Council, cordially held talks with a Japanese parliamentary delegation led by Yoshio Sakurauchi, member of Japan's LDP and chairman of the Japan-Vietnam Friendship Parliamentary League.

Speaking on the occasion, Comrade Chea Sim expressed good feelings about the Japanese parliamentary delegation's visit to Cambodia, which makes an important contribution toward expanding and gradually improving the relations of friendship between the two legislative bodies and the people of the two countries, Cambodia

and Japan. Comrade Chea Sim talked about the all-around development of the Cambodian revolution in the past almost 10 years under the KPRP's clear-sighted leadership and with the vigorous, timely assistance of Vietnam, Laos, the Soviet Union, and other socialist countries, which enables the Cambodian people to overcome complex problems and score great results in every field.

Replying, Sakurauchi and members of the delegation, which represents all five parties, told Comrade Chea Sim about the delegation's goal in visiting Cambodia is to understand the real situation in Cambodia in the current stage and affirmed that upon returning home, the delegation will inform the Japanese people so that they will have a better understanding of the real situation in Cambodia, and will try to make the Japanese Government take a correct stand supporting the Cambodian people's just struggle for a solution to the Cambodian problem through talks and for peace.

Japanese Delegation Ends Visit

*BK2406154988 Phnom Penh SPK in English
1350 GMT 24 Jun 88*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK June 24—The delegation of the Japan-Vietnam Friendship Parliamentary League (JVFPL) led by its president, Yoshio Sakurauchi, left here this afternoon after a two-day visit to Kampuchea.

The delegation was seen off at Pochentong Airport by Mi Samedi, member of the Kampuchean National Assembly's Commission for Cultural and Social Affairs, and other officials.

While here, the delegation was received on separate occasions by Chea Sim, Politburo member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee and chairman of both the National Assembly and the National Council of the United Front for Construction and Defence of the Kampuchean Fatherland; and Hun Sen, Politburo member of the PRK Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers.

It also visited some historical and cultural establishments in Phnom Penh.

Heng Samrin, Chea Sim Receive SRV General

Heng Samrin Praises Volunteers

*BK2706062188 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 0430 GMT 27 Jun 88*

[Text] At the former royal palace at 0730 [0030 GMT] this morning, Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the PRK Council of State, received a delegation of the Vietnamese volunteer army supreme command led by Acting General Le Ngoc Hien, chief of the Vietnamese volunteer army supreme command, which came to bid him farewell before repatriation.

Speaking on that occasion, Comrade Heng Samrin expressed profound gratitude and moving sentiment to cadres and combatants of the Vietnamese volunteer army who, during the past nearly 10 years, have made the greatest sacrifices for the rebirth of the Cambodian people.

Comrade Heng Samrin stressed that the successful implementation of the noble cause of liberating the Cambodian nation and people as well as the cause of defending and building the Cambodian motherland is inseparable from the incomparable great and priceless contribution of cadres and combatants of the Vietnamese volunteer army.

On behalf of the Cambodian party, state, and people, the comrade general secretary expressed profound gratitude to the party, government, and people of Vietnam and the heroic Vietnamese Army volunteers who, as in the past, are giving and will always give unswerving assistance to the just struggle of the Cambodian people for national independence and happiness.

The comrade pledged to more firmly and more broadly strengthen and expand the bond of special militant solidarity between the two countries of Cambodia and Vietnam as well as among Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos, for the cause of peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

In his reply, Acting General Le Ngoc Hien highly valued the growth of the KPRAF, which is advancing toward independently assuming the tasks of totally defending the territorial integrity and completely ensuring the security of the nation. He added that all the victories scored by the Cambodian people during the past 10 years have caused cadres and combatants of the Vietnamese volunteer army to be confident in the wise leadership of the KPRP and the KPRAF and that the fraternal Cambodian people will certainly achieve greater victories.

Chea Sim Expresses Gratitude

BK2706064788 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 0430 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] At the office of the KUFNCD National Council at 0830 [0130 GMT] this morning, Comrade Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the National Assembly and of the KUFNCD National Council, received and had cordial conversation with the delegation of the Vietnamese volunteer army supreme command led by General Le Ngoc Hien, chief of the Vietnamese Volunteer Army Supreme Command, which being repatriated.

On that occasion, Comrade Chea Sim expressed moving sentiment and profound gratitude to cadres and combatants of the Vietnamese Volunteer Army who, during the

past nearly 10 years, have struggled shoulder-to-shoulder with the KPRAF and scored brilliant victories in the tasks of defending and building the Cambodian motherland.

Comrade Chea Sim stressed: Although it is true that the comrades in arms will soon leave Cambodia, your good deeds and excellent character will indelibly stay forever in the hearts of the Cambodian cadres, combatants, and people. They will also serve as a valuable model of heroism from which the Cambodian cadres, combatants, and people can learn.

Comrade Chea Sim stressed that on the basis of the great achievements made by the Cambodian people during the past nearly 10 years, our two parties have pledged to ceaselessly continue to expand our special relationship in accordance with the spirit of the treaty of friendship reached between the two countries, for the correct cause of the two nations, that is firmly defending all the revolutionary gains and building and making their countries advance toward socialism, and for contributing to the cause of peace in the region and the world.

In his reply, General Le Ngoc Hien expressed profound thanks to the Cambodian party, government, and people who have always given all kinds of assistance to enable the Vietnamese Army volunteers to realize their internationalist duties in Cambodia. The comrade stressed that the remaining Vietnamese Army volunteers who are carrying on their internationalist duties in Cambodia under the leadership and guidance of the PRK party, government, and Ministry of National Defense pledge to enhance their will to fight, strictly abide by the discipline, and thoroughly respect all the circulars and decisions of the PRK party and state.

Sihanouk-CGDK Stand on Jakarta Meeting Cited
BK2706005288 (Clandestine) Voice of the National
Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian
2315 GMT 26 Jun 88

[Text] On 25 June 1988, after thorough discussion in an atmosphere of unity, joy, and intimacy, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, DK president; His Excellency Son Sann, CGDK prime minister; and His Excellency Khieu Samphan, DK vice president in charge of foreign affairs, jointly set the CGDK's stand regarding the unofficial meeting in Jakarta as follows:

The stand of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and the CGDK regarding the unofficial meeting in Jakarta:

1. Concerning the fundamental stand regarding the unofficial meeting to be held in Jakarta in July that will be attended by the four Cambodian factions and SRV Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, two other factions in the CGDK are of the opinion that the following opinion that has been repeatedly given by the samdech is the basis for negotiation with the SRV, that is:

First, Vietnam must withdraw its forces in three stages within a clearly fixed timetable under international supervision;

Second, after Vietnam completes the second stage of troop withdrawal, the Phnom Penh regime and the DK state will be dismantled and a provisional quadripartite coalition government headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk will be set up; and

Third, this provisional quadripartite coalition government has the duty to organize the direct, free, and universal election under the international supervision to elect a constitutional parliament that is duty-bound to arrange the constitution, name of the state, national anthem, national flag, and the political, administrative, legislative, economic, financial, social, cultural, educational, and press system.

2. Concerning the process of the Jakarta meeting, the CGDK's request is that Vietnam quickly attends the meeting on the same day as SRV Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach has promised so as to begin discussion with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and the CGDK on how to end the war in Cambodia and how to make all foreign troops withdraw from Cambodia so as to enable the Cambodian people to exercise their right to self-determination, bring about national reconciliation among all Cambodian nationals, and turn Cambodia into an independent and neutral country enjoying its territorial integrity and having no foreign troops on its soil.

3. After an international conference to guarantee the agreement on Cambodia is reached: Various countries concerned with the Cambodian problem, the five members of the UN Security Council, and the UN secretary general should attend an international conference to guarantee this agreement and the independence, neutrality, and territorial integrity of Cambodia which has no foreign bases on its soil.

[Dated] 25 June 1988

[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk, DK president

[Signed] Son Sann, CGDK prime minister

[Signed] Khieu Samphan, DK vice president in charge of foreign affairs

Sihanouk's Comments on Jakarta Talks Reported
BK2506133088 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodia 0430 GMT 25 Jun 88

[Text] Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia and head of the

Cambodian Coalition Government, arrived in Bangkok, Thailand, on Friday where Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila predicted that there will be peace in Cambodian next year.

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk was welcomed at the Bangkok airport by Kasem Kasemsi, permanent secretary of the Thai Foreign Ministry, and high-ranking officials of the Thai Army Supreme Command. During his stay, the samdech will hold talks with high-ranking Thai officials, including Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila and Commander of the Thai Army Chawalit Yongchaiyut. He will meet with ASEAN foreign ministers on 5 July.

Before leaving Beijing the samdech said he will take part in the unofficial talks with Vietnam in Jakarta in July but he has doubts about the recently announced Vietnamese troop pullout from Cambodia. The samdech said he agrees with every proposal leading to a solution to the conflict in Cambodia and he considers this unofficial meeting as a good opportunity.

At the same time, Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila said in an interview that he believes Vietnam is sincere in resolving and ending the current Cambodian conflict.

Laos

District-Level Elections Take Place 26 June

Voters Urged To Participate

BK2506072488 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 25 Jun 88

[Editorial: "Let Us Joyfully Elect Our Own Representatives"]

[Text] Tomorrow, 26 June 1988, our multiethnic Lao people throughout the country will cast votes to officially elect their own district-level representatives. This vote casting is an act of enforcing the genuine rights to self-rule by our people. It is also an act of displaying their fundamental political interest and important responsibility to participate in a process to strongly build the district-level administrative power.

In the past few months, thanks to the close attention paid by our party and state as well as the vigorous activities undertaken by the committees in charge of holding the election, and numerous contributions made by all organizations concerned in applying numerous forms of propaganda to profoundly and extensively popularize the significance of the election, a high degree of interest has been aroused among our people in all localities. Our people have fully come to understand the objectives, expectations, and significance of this district-level election. For example, they understand that the election clearly shows the intentions of our party to promote socialist democracy so as to allow laboring people to gradually and fully exercise their rights to self-rule. This

election is a historic event in our country in which all our people have the opportunity to exercise their civil rights to vote in accordance with the general principle of equality, direct participation, and secret balloting to elect outstanding persons to the state power organizations, thus making them, in a full sense, the organizations of the people, by the people, and for the people. The holding of this election will serve to firmly and strongly consolidate the people's administration in all respects, thus enabling them to fully display their nature as a popular democratic administration under the leadership of the party in opposing all acts of bureaucratism, abuse of power, and violation of the people's rights to self-rule and other civil rights.

Therefore, it can be seen that our country is currently permeated with a new jubilant atmosphere. For instance, preparations for holding the election have been actively carried out in all localities while various services are carrying out emulation campaigns to score achievements and candidates standing for the election have been actively campaigning to allow voters in their respective constituencies to get to know and understand them better and more thoroughly so that the former can make the correct decision in electing the most suitable persons as their representatives in a democratic manner. According to initial reports, preparations have been completed in all localities, thus ensuring that the election will be carried out smoothly on election day.

Nevertheless, these preparations only show that certain favorable conditions have been created for holding the elections. What the outcome of the elections will be or whether the elections will be highly successful or not, depends on how the voting proceeds tomorrow.

To allow this election to be successfully carried out in accordance with the objectives and expectations set forth, several tasks need to be actively fulfilled. To be more specific, there are only two tasks that must be thoroughly executed. That is, the election committee at each polling station and in each zone must strictly uphold a high sense of responsibility by fulfilling all assignments to the best of their abilities and ensuring utmost security for the election. Another important thing is that our entire eligible multiethnic voters must cast their votes to elect their own district-level representatives on the basis of fully exercising their democratic rights, aimed at electing the most capable and outstanding persons who are most honest, qualified, and faithful to the country and socialism to serve them.

Let us cast our votes to show our patriotism and love of socialism. Let us cast our votes to elect the most outstanding persons to the district-level people's councils. This is the right which must be fully exercised by all Lao citizens. Therefore, on 26 June 1988, let all eligible voters joyfully cast votes to elect our own representatives with a high sense of responsibilities in accordance with democratic principles so as to make this election brilliantly successful.

Outline of Election Breakdown

BK2606012088 *Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao*
0000 GMT 26 Jun 88

[Text] Dear listeners: From this very moment until 1700 today, 1,793,032 multiethnic people in every part of the country—47.36 percent of the entire population—who are eligible to run for election and cast their ballots, will exercise their full democratic right by voting for members of district-level people's councils in all parts of the country. This is the first election since the formation of the LPDR and the first time that the Lao people will directly elect their own representatives to administer the country. Therefore, this election has historical significance because the people, the genuine owners of the country, will elect their own administration to serve their own interests.

Following is the breakdown of the numbers of election districts, polling stations, eligible voters, and candidates running for election in all parts of the country.

Vientiane Municipality: 38 election districts, 328 polling stations, 202,805 eligible voters, and 258 candidates; 182 are to be elected.

Phong Saly Province: 61 election districts, 159 polling stations, 65,529 eligible voters, and 224 candidates; 110 are to be elected.

Luang Namtha Province: 38 election districts, 176 polling stations, 53,238 eligible voters, and 205 candidates; 113 are to be elected.

Oudomsai Province: 94 election districts, 375 polling stations, 150,024 eligible voters, and 497 candidates; 245 are to be elected.

Bokeo Province: 22 election districts, 71 polling stations, 27,631 eligible voters, and 113 candidates; 59 are to be elected.

Luang Prabang Province: 81 election districts, 832 polling stations, 136,337 eligible voters, and 349 candidates; 183 are to be elected.

Houa Phan Province: 42 election districts, 305 polling stations, 91,785 eligible voters, and 247 candidates; 130 are to be elected.

Xiang Khouang Province: 47 election districts, 182 polling stations, 95,012 eligible voters, and 238 candidates; 136 are to be elected.

Vientiane Province: 51 election districts, 270 polling stations, 117,520 eligible voters, and 325 candidates; 189 are to be elected.

Bolikhamxai Province: 38 election districts, 165 polling stations, 59,163 eligible voters, and 203 candidates; 102 are to be elected.

Khammouane Province: 75 election districts, 220 polling stations, 195,098 eligible voters, and 292 candidates; 122 are to be elected.

Savannakhet Province: 149 election districts, 430 polling stations, 256,533 eligible voters, and 585 candidates; 262 are to be elected.

Saravane Province: 38 election districts, 110 polling stations, 88,341 eligible voters, and 212 candidates; 135 are to be elected.

Sekong Province: 21 election districts, 37 polling stations, 25,876 eligible voters, and 98 candidates; 55 are to be elected.

Champassak Province: 61 election districts, 298 polling stations, 195,998 eligible voters, and 342 candidates; 212 are to be elected.

Attapeu Province: 23 election districts, 53 polling stations, 35,986 eligible voters, and 109 candidates; 74 are to be elected.

Sayaboury Province: 29 election districts, 158 polling stations, 82,550 eligible voters, and 171 candidates; 101 are to be elected.

There are 910 election districts, 4,169 polling stations, 1,793,032 eligible voters, and 4,462 candidates; 2,410 are to be elected throughout the country.

Leaders Cast Votes

BK2606101088 *Vientiane KPL in English*
0922 GMT 26 Jun 88

[Text] Vientiane, June 26 (OANA-KPL)—The Lao people of all ethnicities from the age of eighteen enthusiastically go to the polls today to elect their deputies at the district level. This is the second time since the nation was totally liberated in 1975 that the people exercise their suffrage.

The election is carried out according to the equal, direct, and secret principles. There are, in the entire country, 910 electoral districts, 4,196 polls, and 1,793,032 eligible voters representing 47.36 percent of the entire population in the country. There are 4,462 candidates running for 2,410 seats.

Among the leaders who went to the polls this morning were Kayson Phomvihane, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party CC, chairman of the Council of Ministers; Souphanouvong, president of the republic and president of the People's Supreme Assembly [PSA]; Sisomphon Lovansai, acting president of the PSA, president of the National Electoral Committee.

Kaysone Phomvihane and Sisavat Keobounphan, mayor of Vientiane, cast their votes this morning at the Ban Pamai cooperative, Vat Sop village, Sisattanak District,

Vientiane Prefecture. This is the fourth poll of the fourth electoral district of Sisattanak District. 222 voters are expected to cast their votes at the Ban Pamai poll.

The Vientiane Prefecture has thirty-eight electoral districts, 328 polls. 202,805 eligible voters and 258 candidates running for 182 seats. The biggest province in term of electoral districts is Savannakhet. The province has 149 electoral districts, 420 polls, 256,533 eligible voters and 585 candidates running for 262 seats. The province which has the least electoral districts is the newly founded province [name of province not given]. This southern province has 21 electoral districts, 37 polls, 25,876 eligible voters and 98 candidates running for 55 seats.

The ratio of the deputies representing the public is based on the political, socioeconomic reality of each locality.

Report on Election Atmosphere

BK2606141488 [Editorial Report] Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao at 1200 GMT on 26 June carries a 15-minute report, with portions recorded, on the "prevailing joyous atmosphere during the district-level election in Vientiane Municipality today."

The station announcer reports that a total number of 1,793,032 eligible voters throughout the country are supposed to go to the polls today to elect 2,410 persons, out of 4,462 candidates, to be their representatives. He notes: "Reports from many localities say that the district-level election today has been carried out in a joyous, orderly manner throughout the country."

As for Vientiane Municipality, the announcer reports that the election has also been carried out "in a jubilant atmosphere" as well. Voters went to the many beautifully decorated polling stations in many districts in the capital to cast ballots. He reports that a total number of 248 candidates are running for office in the election in the capital today. He says Sisavat Keobounphan, Political Bureau member and secretary of the party Central Committee, secretary of the Vientiane Municipal Party Committee, and chairman of the Vientiane Municipal Administrative Committee, cast his ballot at Polling Station No 4, Zone 4 in Sisattanak District. The announcer also presents a recorded interview with Sisavat Keobounphan.

In the interview, Sisavat Keobounphan says in full: "I am of the view that even though I am a member of the LPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and lord mayor of Vientiane Municipality, as a private citizen who comes to cast my ballot today, I am proud that I have fulfilled my duty as a good Lao citizen."

When asked about the difference between the election of deputies under the old and new regimes, Sisavat Keobounphan says: "I am of the opinion that they are totally different. Under the new regime, people are the masters

of their own destiny. Everyone has the right to elect his own deputies, who are well qualified and capable of administering, building, and defending the country. The forthcoming elections to the people's councils at the municipal and central levels will be very significant. As a private citizen, I will elect capable and knowledgeable people who are faithful to the people as my representatives."

The station announcer also presents recorded statements made by several voters and candidates as well officials manning polling stations in Sisattanak, Sikhottabong, Saisettha, Nasaithong, Saithani, and Hatsaifong Districts on their views on the election.

The announcer concludes that the district-level election in Vientiane Municipality is "the election of people's representatives, which is suitable to the line of our new regime." He notes that because both the candidates and voters "share a similar idealism, that is they are totally faithful to the party and people," the election in the municipality has been carried out with "brilliant success" and "in a joyous and orderly manner" from the beginning to end.

Philippines

Based Review Panel Resolves 'Some Issues'
HK2406072188 Manila MANILA BULLETIN
in English 24 Jun 88 pp 1, 18

[Excerpt] The RP [Republic of the Philippines]-US Military Bases Agreement (MBA) review panels successfully resolved yesterday some issues on base security, procurement, and ownership and disposition of structures and other properties, generating optimism that the talks on the last three years of the agreement will come to a happy conclusion.

As usual, the two panels did not elaborate. They only said that "they focused on areas of disagreement and succeeded in resolving some."

Diplomatic observers, however, feel that the renewal of the bases agreement is an entirely different ball game and, in fact, any negotiations toward this end may be headed for failure in the face of the Constitutional provision on nuclear weapons.

The 1987 Constitution provides that: "The Philippines, consistent with national interest, adopts and pursues a policy of freedom from nuclear weapons in its territory." (Art. II, Sec. 8)

Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus, head of the RP MBA panel and other Filipino legislators have remained firm that any arrangement for the renewal of the US Bases Agreement should conform with the constitutional provision. [passage omitted]

Manglapus Says No Agreement on Bases Rental
HK2506044588 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan
in Tagalog 0400 GMT 25 Jun 88

[Text] While some progress has been reported in the ongoing review of the Military Bases Agreement, Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus claimed that no agreement has yet been reached on the issue of how much the United States should pay as rent for the military bases. The payment will cover the remaining 3 years of the agreement.

Meanwhile, three resolutions have been submitted in the Senate calling for termination of the Military Bases Agreement in 1991. Senator Rene Saguisag stated that the people's ratification of the Constitution meant that they fully objected to the Military Bases Agreement.

The Military Bases Agreement will expire in 1991.

Possibility of Agreement Termination
HK2606031288 Quezon City Sports Radio 738
in English 0300 GMT 26 Jun 88

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus says the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Military Bases Agreement might be terminated earlier than its 1991 schedule. Manglapus clarified that the early termination of the agreement might be effected if no agreement is reached, especially on the issue of bases compensation, in the ongoing review. Manglapus stressed that it will be difficult for the Americans not to agree on compensation and still insist on staying in the bases.

The Philippines has reportedly asked for a \$2 to 3 billion annual compensation for the remaining 2 years of the agreement. Meantime, the U.S. panel says they might triple the present compensation, which is \$180 million per year.

Aquino Urges Less Military Reliance on U.S.
BK2606141888 Hong Kong AFP in English 1337 GMT
26 Jun 88

[Text] Manila, June 26 (AFP)—President Corazon Aquino called Sunday for less dependence on U.S. military aid and the foreign secretary said Manila could shorten the lease of U.S. military bases here if both sides failed to agree on the rent.

"As a rule, it is not proper that our Armed Forces rely on the United States for firearms," Mrs Aquino said in her weekly radio call-in show when asked whether a U.S. military pullout would not play into the hands of the communist insurgency.

Washington provides \$180 million a year in economic and military aid to Manila under a five-year compensation package for Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base, the two largest U.S. military installations overseas.

Mrs Aquino said that "as of now, the Armed Forces have a self-reliance defense posture program where we are trying to manufacture the combat equipment which we need."

She said her government has proposed to congress a 190 million-peso (\$9.04 million) capital outlay for defense in the proposed 1989 national budget of 228.9 billion pesos (\$10.9 billion). Philippine Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus said Manila was entitled to shorten the lease on Clark and Subic if both sides failed to agree on rent for them, newspapers here said Sunday.

"If there's no agreement on compensation it will be an indication to us of how the Americans view the bases," the newspapers quoted him as saying.

"If we don't reach any agreement, we might exercise certain prerogatives on the agreement itself to shorten the life of the bases," he added.

Manila and Washington are holding talks on the terms of the last two years of a 41-year-old military bases agreement which expires in 1991.

Washington wants to extend the lease, while Manila has hinted it wanted at least a billion dollars over 1990-91, compared with the current \$180 million a year in economic and military aid.

Washington has said it lacks the money and has argued that the bases offer protection for the entire region.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, due to visit Manila next month, told a congressional hearing earlier this month that the bases would be moved elsewhere if Manila asked for "staggering sums" and banned nuclear weapons.

The Philippine Senate has passed a bill banning nuclear weapons on the country's territory and a similar bill is under consideration in the House of Representatives. Both bills are considered to be directed at the bases.

Mr Manglapus the chief Philippine negotiator, refused to give the amount the U.S. panel has offered, but added that "it doesn't meet our expectations at all," press reports said.

At this point, he could not say whether the Philippines would succeed in gaining higher compensation, they said.

Withdrawal of Power Supply to U.S. Bases Sought
HK2706071988 Manila BUSINESS WORLD
in English 27 Jun 88 p 1

[By Benjamin B. Cruz]

[Excerpt] The House committee on energy has approved two measures seeking to withdraw from the National Power Corporation [NPC] the power to sell electric power to U.S. bases facilities and other foreign military installations.

As a consequence, the bases have been asked to use their own power-generating facilities for their electric power requirements.

Rep. Herminio Aquino of Tarlac, committee chairman, urged the entire Chamber to immediately pass House Bill 13041 and House Resolution 748 effecting the measure.

The solon, who is also one of the principal authors of the two measures, said the Office of the President, in times of "emergency and calamity," may be empowered to authorize the sale of electric power to these installations.

"NPC, however, has to confirm in advance that it could render such service without unduly depriving its Filipino customers of much-needed electric power, or (if) adequate capacity exists in the grid concerned," the solon qualified.

Rep. Aquino said NPC's supply of power to these installations "automatically" deprives NPC's other customers, notably commercial and industrial establishments.

He said the combined peak load and energy consumption of all military installations—about 75 megawatts and 400 million kilowatts per hour, respectively—"represents the single largest block of demand in the Luzon grid, next only to that of Meralco (Manila Electric Co.)."

The recommendation was apparently prompted by testimonies of some members of the business community before the committee, who warned that a 40 percent increase in industrial power consumption in the first quarter of this year raised prospects of a serious power shortage.

Rep. Aquino said hearings on the critical power situation in Luzon pointed out the high probability of a shortage over the next two or three years. [passage omitted]

Tight Security at U.S. Bases After NPA Threats
HK2506085388 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan
in Tagalog 0800 GMT 25 Jun 88

[Text] Strict security measures have been enforced at Subic Naval Base following reports of NPA plans to assassinate American servicemen in Olongapo and

Angeles cities. Reports claimed that security measures were implemented to protect U.S. military personnel as well as civilians residing near the bases. Armed Forces authorities may also set up checkpoints at each entry point.

According to a military report, the NPA attackers will come from Pangasinan, Zambales, Bataan and Pampanga.

City Near Clark Said 'Living in Fear'
*HK2406071188 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER in English 24 Jun 88 p 6*

[By Jay Sangil]

[Text] Angeles City—This city lives in fear because of a rapidly deteriorating peace and order situation and an economic slump that is gradually being felt as dollar-spending Americans from Clark air base are beginning to shy away once more from city streets.

Businessmen are worried that "war of the streets," which has claimed 31 lives in two months in the Angeles area, would eventually bring back those days of economic dislocation that occurred after three American servicemen and a Filipino of American descent were killed in the city on October 28 last year. Clark authorities then banned U.S. servicemen outside the base.

Recently, the New People's Army renewed its vow to go on with the killings and kidnappings, not only of servicemen but of members of their families. Although Clark has not yet reacted to the threat and the recent wave of killings, the local chamber of commerce is troubled. Local businessmen came out with a position paper condemning the recent killings, particularly those allegedly perpetuated by the NPA guerillas.

Despite military assurances that everything is under control, rigid checkpoints throughout the city suggest an atmosphere of anxiety.

Rep. Carmelo Lazatin (1st district-Pampanga), has warned that the peace and order situation has been driving away investors since the series of killings started last May 5.

So far, 13 civilians, including a militant lawyer, two PC sergeants, three barangay leaders, the city engineer, an Air Force officer and a policeman were killed in separate incidents in the city.

Vice Mayor Edgardo Pamintuan appealed recently to his constituents "to give peace a chance." The killings went on however, even as Mayor Antonio Abad Santos dismissed the violent incidents as normal in any highly urbanized town.

Military authorities seem to be helpless, particularly against killings they have attribute to suspected rebels who earlier manifested anti-U.S. bases sentiments and a determination to pressure Americans out of the U.S. facilities.

A few Americans still roam the streets, but their presence is hardly felt as dusk sets in Nightclub habitués among Americans have decreased, and it is apparent that most of them have taken precautionary measures that will eventually tell on the cash registers of business establishments here.

Meanwhile, there seems to be no letup in the "war of the streets" as anti-communist vigilante groups, particularly the Angelino Simbulan Brigade, have taken retaliatory moves with the killing recently of Ramos Cura, a Bayan [Bagong Alyansang Makabayan—New Nationalist Alliance] leader and lawyer of captured communist leader Rodolfo Salas alias Kumander [Commander] Bilog. It seems that the killings have given rise to another phase of violence.

Already, the rebels seem to have made things move with the murder the following day of a former security chief of ex-mayor Francisco Nepomuceno, PC Sergeant Arnulfo Carino, who was slain inside a plush subdivision here.

U.S. Pullout 'To Create Internal Power Vacuum'
*HK2706055388 Manila MANILA BULLETIN
in English 27 Jun 88 pp 6, 18*

[From the Column by Jesus Bigornia: "U.S. Pullout Can Weaken Democratic Prop"]

[Text] Passion has thrown sobriety and reason out the window in the current discussion of the value of the United States military bases in the Philippines. An American threat to pull up stakes in reply to a Philippine demand for rentals has sent officialdom here into hysterics of nationalism not unmixed with commercialism. In the welter of statements, little has been said about geographical and strategic realities, not to say probable consequences of American departure on the economic and political systems of this country.

The traditional American position calls for the maintenance of Clark Air Force Base in Pampanga and Subic Bay Naval facility in Zambales as protective shields for Philippine security interests. Naturally, Filipinos have asked and continue to ask: Protection from whom? From the Russians their Vietnamese surrogates, Washington invariably replies. The Soviets, Filipinos are told, are at Cam Ranh bay and at Danang, both as near to the Philippines as Manila is to Cebu.

As if to give substance to the Soviet "bogeyman," American military strategists almost always point out that the Philippines is virtually faced by a half-circle of communist military might. Just across the southern half of the South China sea, it is suggested, one of the largest

and highly-trained land armies of the world stands idle in Vietnam. Another mighty military force exists in China, just across the northern half of the same narrow sea, while at Cam Ranh bay there are Soviet naval facilities.

All these societies, it is pointed out, are governed by totalitarian regimes which permit no significant internal diversions, and which are based on the global ambitions of communism. In contrast, the Philippines is weakened by the challenges of its communist and Muslim dissenters who, it is believed, are helped at least economically by pro-Soviet bloc countries. To outsiders therefore, the Philippines appears by its lonesome to be defenseless and in danger—without the United States bases.

Questioning the validity of the American premise, Filipino geopolitical pundits stress that "naked invasion has gone out of fashion, outmoded by World War II." As for the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, such observers as former Labor Minister Blas F. Ople maintain it was justified by Moscow's concern over the fate of a friendly regime in a country sharing a very long common border with the Soviet Union. The Philippines shares no common border with any country, he pointed out.

"Invasions are now organized by the two superpowers through their proxies," Ople stresses, pointing out that the Kremlin helped set up the Sandinista government in Nicaragua in the same manner that the United States continues to prop up the pro-American regime in nearby Honduras. Across the globe, Ople adds, both the Soviet Union and the United States have spread their "spheres of influence" by supporting governments that have been more tractable to their contending foreign policies. In the Philippines, for example, Washington has propped up every Philippine administration since declaration of independence with military and economic assistance.

An American pullout would, however, create an internal power vacuum in the Philippines, it is conceded. Weakened by a ravaged economy, handicapped by a divided military and loaded under a huge external debt, the Philippines' so-called democratic system is due for its severest test of existence should American assistance be withdrawn as threatened by Washington. For in that event, Moscow and Libya will gain wider freedom of movement in aiding their New People's Army and Moro National Liberation Front surrogates to gain governmental power. Hence the question: Does this prospect please the average Filipino?

Feminists Hold Protest at U.S. Embassy
HK2706060188 Hong Kong AFP in English 0559 GMT 27 Jun 88

[Text] Manila, June 27 (AFP)—A feminist group picketed the U.S. Embassy here Monday to demand the removal of two nearby U.S. military bases, which it accused of spawning prostitution, drug addiction and AIDS, witnesses said.

Police stood back as about 50 members of the left-wing Gabriela Women's Group raised banners and handed out manifestos seeking removal of Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base, the largest U.S. military facilities overseas, they said.

The feminists claimed that 26,000 prostitutes and bar girls were officially registered to be working around the bases and that an increasing number of young girls in the streets were selling their bodies to American soldiers, witnesses said.

They blasted President Corazon Aquino for her refusal to say whether she will let the bases stay beyond 1991, which they called "a stand for prostitution, disease and other forms of destruction," witnesses said.

Philippine health officials have pinpointed the bases as a source of AIDS. Most of the 64 Filipinos so far found to be infected with the disease were prostitutes catering to U.S. servicemen and employees at the bases.

The protest came as U.S. and Filipino officials continued thorny talks on the terms governing the last two years of the bases' lease, which expires in 1991. The negotiations center on compensation for the facilities.

Manila has hinted that it wants at least a billion dollars for the last two years, while Washington has warned that its budget is tight and may have to move the bases in the face of steep demands and a possible nuclear weapons ban.

Diplomats say the results of the talks could determine if Manila will agree to renew the bases' lease amid a mounting domestic campaign for their removal.

Congressional Delegation To Visit Moscow 1 July
HK2506055388 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 0500 GMT 25 Jun 88

[Text] Sixteen Philippine senators and congressmen will leave for the Soviet Union on 1 July for a 13-day working visit. While in Moscow, the delegation will meet with Soviet President Andrey Gromyko as well as with the chairmen of the two chambers of the Supreme Soviet. It may also meet with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

In a statement the Soviet Embassy said that the delegation was not invited to visit the USSR as part of a diplomatic offensive in view of the scheduled expiration of the Republic of the Philippines-U.S. military agreement in 1991.

According to an embassy spokesman, the visit has nothing to do with the bases issue but was part of normal exchanges in the Philippines-USSR relations.

Laurel on Month-long Visit to East Europe
*HK2606071688 Hong Kong AFP in English 0649 GMT
26 Jun 88*

[Text] Manila, June 26 (AFP)—Vice President Salvador Laurel has left for West Germany on a month-long foreign tour to include visits to the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, East Germany and Hungary, an aide said Sunday.

Mr. Laurel, who left unannounced for Frankfurt on Saturday, "will be writing a book about the visit," appointments secretary Lucy Bueser told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

The vice president was going to the Soviet Union at Moscow's invitation, she added, but did not know whether he would be meeting with Soviet officials.

Mr. Laurel is to visit West Berlin on Tuesday then cross the wall into East Berlin Wednesday, Mrs. Bueser said.

He will return to Stuttgart June 30, visit Prague on July 2 and go on to Budapest on July 4, before leaving for Yugoslavia July 8 for visits to Belgrade and Dubrovnik.

He leaves for Moscow July 9 and his Soviet trip would also include a visit to Leningrad.

Mrs. Bueser said she did not know whether Mr. Laurel would meet with a Philippine congressional delegation which is leaving July 4 for a trip to the Soviet Union.

Mr. Laurel will then return to Stuttgart and is scheduled to be back in Manila July 23.

Mr. Laurel teamed up with President Corazon Aquino on the opposition ticket in a February 1986 presidential election which sparked a popular revolt that ousted Ferdinand Marcos and installed President Aquino in power.

He quit his cabinet post as foreign secretary in September and has criticized some of Mrs. Aquino's policies.

Last week Mrs. Aquino rejected his suggestion that she convene the national security council to decide whether two U.S. military bases would be allowed in the Philippines after 1991 when their current lease expires.

Aquino To Allow Marcos' Return for Trial
*HK2506032588 Manila Far East Broadcasting
Company in English 2300 GMT 24 Jun 88*

[Text] President Corazon Aquino has categorically agreed to allow former President Marcos to return and face trial in Manila in exchange for continued Swiss assistance to uncover ill-gotten wealth stashed away in

Swiss banks. Mrs. Aquino made this commitment to two of the Swiss lawyers helping the Philippines in cases against Marcos when they met in Malacanang before her European trip.

Press Secretary Teodoro Benigno told Malacanang reporters that the lawyers made clear to Mrs. Aquino that Swiss law on the matter is very clear: The assets of Marcos would not be given unless there is an assurance that formal charges will be filed against him. The assurance includes formal trial and indictment that should take place in Manila.

Officials Tagged as Communist Supporters
*HK2706094188 Manila MANILA STANDARD
in English 27 Jun 88 pp 1, 6*

[By Romie E. Evangelista]

[Text] The Department of Local Government [DLG] has identified at least 50 local chief executives who have allegedly been supporting the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and its military arms, the New People's Army (NPA).

The source, who declined to be identified, said the local officials involved are composed mostly of mayors, sangguniang bayan [town councillors] and sangguniang panlalawigan [provincial board] members, with the inclusion of one governor. He, however, refused to name names.

He said most of the local officials concerned come from the provinces in Southern Tagalog, Bicol and Mindanao.

According to the source, the reports came from the DLG's field personnel and several members of the local peace and order councils (POCs) who were tasked to monitor the activities of all the local officials nationwide.

"In our effort to establish the local chapters of the POCs, several left-leaning local officials have shown strong resistance against their formation," he source said.

Earlier, six Bicol governors had threatened to resign as heads of the regional peace and order councils after the military establishment revealed that at least three prominent politicians in the region had been recruited by the CPP for membership in the National Democratic Front.

The governors asked the military to identify who among them are linked to the rebels. Camarines Sur Gov. Luis Villafuerte said it is unfair for the military to speak in generalities since every governor in Bicol would be suspected not only be fellow public servants but also by their constituents.

Albay Gov. Romeo Salalima disclosed that he and other governors share the view that they should resign as regional heads of POC until they are cleared "since all of us are subject to suspicion for as long as the military authorities do not name names."

The DLG source declined to identify the names of the local officials pending the submission of all substantial evidence against the concerned local officials.

Based on an analysis of recently captured computer diskettes from Bicol-based rebels, Maj. Gen. Ramon E. Monetano linked some Bicol politicians to the outlawed communist organization.

Military Discovers New Group of Plotters
HK2706062388 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 27 Jun 88 pp 1, 10

[By D. Veridanio]

[Text] Government agents investigating the Camp Crame raid discovered a previously undetected group of restive servicemen who are also plotting to overthrow President Aquino.

Military documents shown to INQUIRER identified the clandestine organization as United Loyalists of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (ULAFP), whose members belong to the various operating units of the Constabulary, Army and Air Force. The group was allegedly behind the recent series of moves to destabilize the Aquino Administration.

The discovery of the new group came barely a few days before Senate Minority Floor Leader Juan Ponce Enrile revealed during a speaking engagement in Cebu City last Saturday that: "another coup attempt plotted by forces right inside the Armed Forces is in the offing."

Enrile reportedly told his Cebu audience that "some AFP officers and men are not happy, not so much for material reasons, but because they have ideas of their own."

Enrile, was fired by Aquino as defense minister in November 1986 after a coup plot involving officers closely identified with him was exposed.

Last Friday, the military arrested in Tondo three more alleged members of the self-styled "Black Forest Commandos" who are also plotting yet another coup attempt.

The existence of ULAFP cropped up during the questioning of a PC major in connection with the Camp Crame raid and the attempt to spring former Quirino Gov. Orlando Dulay from the PC stockade in the early morning of June 11, the INQUIRER learned.

A Criminal Investigation Service (CIS) investigator reportedly asked the PC major if he was aware of the existence of UNAFP and if he was one of its members.

The investigator's line of questioning was prompted by several summaries of information the intelligence community has been receiving on the existence of yet another organization of restive military personnel.

Although ULAFP is believed to be the core group of the armed supporters of deposed President Marcos, the intelligence community is puzzled by reports that some military officers who are closely identified with the present AFP high command having been attending ULAFP meetings.

Military Captures 3 Former Marcos Loyalists
BK2606083988 Manila PNA in English 0304 GMT 26 Jun 88

[Text] Manila, June 26 (OANA/PNA)—Military operatives nabbed three former members of deposed President Marcos' elite Presidential Security Command [PSC] in a crackdown against Marcos loyalist soldiers believed to be responsible for a raid on a major military camp early this month.

The arrest brought to 10 the number of arrested members of a so-called "Black Forest Commando" unit of Marcos loyalist soldiers suspected of having staged a daring raid on the suburban Philippine Constabulary (PC) headquarters in Camp Crame, Quezon City.

The raiders, numbering about 25 and wearing masks, fled with 20 Armaletes from the armory of the PC marching band unit.

Military officials said the raid was part of an arms buildup by Marcos loyalist soldiers engaged in a plot to stage another coup against the Aquino government.

The national Capital Region Defense Command (NCRDC) earlier captured seven of the suspected raiders in a hideout in Antipolo Municipality in the outskirts of Metro Manila.

Continued operations led to the arrest Saturday of three more in Tondo, Manila. Operatives seized hundreds of bullets, rifles, and grenades and vital documents revealing loyalist coup plots against the Aquino government in both operations.

The suspects were identified as members of the defunct PSC formerly commanded by Marcos' trusted General Fabian Ver who himself fled with the Marcoses following the February 1986 civilian-backed military revolt that installed Aquino to power.

Marcos Loyalists Arrested for Plotting Coup
*OW2606053688 Tokyo KYODO in English 0500 GMT
26 Jun 88*

[Text] Manila, June 26 KYODO—Government forces arrested on Saturday three soldiers loyal to ousted leader Ferdinand Marcos who allegedly planned to attack the Manila International Airport and force President Corazon Aquino to step down earlier this month.

Col. Emiliano Templo, deputy chief of the Manila military command and leader of the early Saturday morning lightning raid, said one woman identified as Tessie Liu, 30, was also invited for questioning. He said Liu claimed she was a boarder of the raided apartment.

Templo's team backed by another group of policemen found the three soldiers and Liu when they raided a suspected loyalists' urban lair in the slum district of Tondo.

Templo said they seized 24 M-16 rifles, fragmentation grenades, and other military materiel. He said they also discovered documents detailing destabilization plots for the overthrow of the Aquino government which were set for June 11, two days before Aquino was to leave for a European visit.

One of the documents showed a 10-point demand to be made by the rebels which included the resignation of Aquino and the return of Marcos, he said.

Government troops and loyalist soldiers clashed on June 11 inside the suburban constabulary headquarters when rebel armed forces attempted to rescue a military officer being detained for links with Marcos.

Templo said the four suspects will be turned over to the Constabulary Criminal Investigation Service after being interrogated at the Metropolitan Manila Military Unit Headquarters.

De Veila Says No Evidence of NPA Having SAM's
*HK2506040388 Quezon City Sports Radio 738
in English 2300 GMT 24 Jun 88*

[Text] There is no evidence that communist rebels have already acquired sophisticated weapons for use in their fight against government forces. This information comes from AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief General Renato de Villa.

General de Villa told newsmen that the rebels have so far been using only small firearms against the AFP.

[Begin De Villa recording] We have not seen any evidence of the presence of heavier or more sophisticated weapons such as surface-to-air missiles [SAM] in their possession or in use by them. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos said there is a continuing effort by the CPP [Communist Party of the Philippines]-NPA to secure antiaircraft armaments.

[Begin Ramos recording] There is continuous effort on the part of the CPP-NPA-NDF through their international commission, tasked to perform solidarity work and also weapons procurement. [end recording]

Earlier, Secretary Ramos witnessed the formal turnover of command of Subic Naval and Clark Air Bases. Gen de Villa turned over his post as Subic base commander to Navy chief Carlito Cunanan and his Clark Air Base post to Air Force Jose de Leon Jr. President Aquino earlier relieved De Villa as commander of the two bases. It was explained that the relief of De Villa was designed to enable him to devote full time to the country's insurgency problem.

Aquino Urged To Test U.S. Intentions on Aid
*HK2406064588 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE
in English 24 Jun 88 p 4*

["Turn of Events" column by Francisco S. Tatad:
"Testing the U.S."]

[Text] If French misgivings at the Toronto G-7 [Group of Seven] summit mean anything—about the Philippines being singled out for economic relief by the industrial democracies—it is not going to be easy for the U.S. to put together a multibillion-dollar assistance package for its crisis-stricken ally under the umbrella of the seven industrial powers. But the fact that the summit agreed to some watered-down reference to the country gives the U.S. and the Philippines a basis to pursue the proposal with each of the prospective donor-countries.

From here on, the Aquino administration will have to exert quiet but serious diplomatic effort to make sure that that short portion of the communique which says "Latin America, Africa and the Pacific, particularly the Philippines, merit our special attention," translates into a multilateral assistance program for the country. The administration has the opportunity to show that it has learned from Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus's mistakes in the ongoing review of the military bases agreement with the U.S. on how not to negotiate.

One has a feeling President Mitterrand might have been better disposed to support U.S. President Reagan's proposal singling out the Philippines as a fragile democracy needing special help if Mrs Aquino had taken pains to seek France's as well as the others' assistance prior to the summit. But she did not, and this is where the dubious merit of her recent European junket becomes as clear as light. Had she, in addition to, or instead of, Switzerland and Italy, gone to Germany, Britain and France, which all have invited her to visit, she could have sought, and

possibly secured, some firm commitments from them to help push the concept. Then Reagan's proposal might have gone beyond the form it finally took in the Toronto communique.

This is not to say that she should now make a quick trip to these countries. Thanks to the example she has set, there are now countless officials junketing abroad on the taxpayers' expense without any public purpose, while essential costs are unmet and the government talks of incurring a deficit of P22.9 billion in the next budget, and spending P104 billion to service the foreign debt. Nor is it to echo the reproach made belatedly by former Foreign Undersecretary (now Senator) Leticia Ramos-Shahani that, the Aquino regime does not seem to be making enough foreign policy sense. There is no need to repeat that, for it does not even have a domestic policy sense—and foreign policy is nothing but an extension of domestic policy. It is simply to say that the government should now seize and exploit the opportunity of the moment.

Because much apprehension has been expressed about the proposed program being used to further deepen Philippine economic dependence on the U.S., care should be taken to make sure that the Germans, the British, the Italians, the Canadians, the Japanese—and let us not forget the French—exercise equal responsibility in putting together the package. But this should be a Philippine initiative, rather than that of the U.S.

Fear has also been expressed that the U.S. proposal is nothing but a ploy to make it easier for the Philippines to continue hosting U.S. military facilities after the bases agreement expires in 1991. U.S. official spokesmen have assured us that the two issues are separate and unrelated, but such assurances have been met with skepticism among Filipino nationalists and the Left who see no altruism in American aid. This is something we can, and should now, put to the test.

Mrs Aquino is in the best position to do this. Simply by announcing her government's position on the bases, we will see whether the two issues are indeed separate and unrelated, and whether the U.S. will push vigorously the implementation of a multilateral assistance program for the country if and when Mrs Aquino says her government is closing down the bases.

If despite that, the U.S. initiative does not flag and Reagan or his successor uses his clout on the other OECD countries to wrap up the package, then we will see they are indeed separate, and the government then might even find some reason to reconsider abrogation of the bases. My guess, however, is that if Mrs Aquino says no to the bases, the U.S. will also say no to massive aid, and so will the Germans, the British, the Japanese, the Italians, the Canadians, and the French.

Thailand

Sitthi Views ASEAN-Sihanoul Meeting

BK2406151788 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai
1030 GMT 24 Jun 88

[Report on 24 June news conference given by Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila at the Foreign Ministry on 24 June]

[Text] Reporters asked the foreign minister for his opinions on the Cambodian problem in connection with his confidence, expressed earlier, that a settlement might be possible by next year as considerable progress has been achieved lately on the Cambodian issue. Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila told newsmen:

[Begin Sitthi recording] I have told the media that the problem could be settled before 1990 as all parties... [changes thought] I hope, I repeat, I hope that Vietnam would be sincere and make serious efforts in solving the Cambodian problem according to what we have discussed. I told Minister Nguyen Co Thach when he met me here that we would like to see a political solution first. If there is no political solution, the Cambodian problem will always be there despite the fact that all foreign forces are pulled out by 1990. There should be an agreement on how to settle the problem first. What Nguyen Co Thach made clear when he met me is, first, he said he will surely attend the meeting in Jakarta, and, second, he said Vietnam will do its best to solve the problem. I therefore told him that I believe that, with efforts from all parties, including Cambodia itself, there should be an agreement on the settlement of the problem. That means we would be able to find a solution to the problem even earlier than we expected. This is good. I told him that if we have peace, it would be better for cooperation among countries in this region. [end recording]

Concerning a report that says China has confirmed that its stand remains unchanged regarding the Khmer Rouge and that the Khmer Rouge would not attend the Jakarta meeting, the foreign minister said:

[Begin recording] China has denied the report. I was asked that question, and I wondered myself how there had been such a report from China. China denied the report about the Khmer Rouge, especially about Pol Pot, being given political asylum in China. China said it has no such plan. Concerning Thailand, we have made clear all the time that Thailand will not interfere in Cambodia's internal affairs. We respect the Cambodian people's will and the agreement reached among them. Concerning the report which says that the Khmer Rouge would not attend the Jakarta meeting, I have learned from the ministry permanent secretary, who met with Khieu Samphan, that the Khmer Rouge will attend the meeting after learning that Vietnam will attend the meeting. Therefore, there should be no problem concerning the question about Pol Pot posing as an obstacle to the process for a settlement. Thailand will

not touch this issue. Correspondents tried to ask me about this, but I tried not to talk about it as Pol Pot himself holds no position whatsoever in the DK government. [end recording]

Correspondents asked the foreign minister about major issues to be discussed between Prince Sihanouk and the ASEAN foreign ministers when they meet here. Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila said:

[Begin recording] On 4 July, there will be a meeting of the ASEAN foreign ministers. After the meeting, on 5 July I will hold a news conference. On the evening of 5 July, we will host a reception in honor of Prince Sihanouk. In addition to the ASEAN foreign ministers, we will also invite ambassadors from all ASEAN countries, from countries of ASEAN dialogue partners, as well as other concerned countries, such as China. Before the meeting between the ASEAN foreign ministers and Prince Sihanouk, I will have a 1-hour discussion with him. This will be followed by the reception.

[Unidentified reporter] I would like to ask the minister about major issues the ASEAN foreign ministers will bring up for discussion with Prince Sihanouk.

[Sitthi] ASEAN would like to know whether he will attend the Jakarta meeting, what kind of a government he would like to have, what other conditions he may have so that we can bring them up for political negotiations. That is what ASEAN would like to know from him. We would like to have an opinion about his plan of solving the Cambodian problem. All parties—ASEAN, the Soviet Union, and other countries of the world, consider Prince Sihanouk as the most important person playing a key role in arranging for a political settlement of the Cambodian problem. His opinions would be of great use to us, which is why we want to hear directly from him about these matters. [end recording]

Cambodia's Sihanouk on Upcoming Jakarta Talks
BK2506035388 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
25 Jun 88 p. 4

[Text] Prince Norodom Sihanouk says he will let his two coalition partners and the Phnom Penh regime work out a compromise on Kampuchea at the Jakarta peace talks next month and promised to back any agreement reached at the meeting.

The prince, who arrived in Bangkok yesterday, stated in a recent press release that he did not want to be accused of "destroying" the Jakarta "cocktail party" meeting by putting forward proposals which may not be acceptable to the other parties, including Vietnam.

The first phase of the Jakarta talks was initially set for all four Khmer factions to negotiate before meeting with other dialogue partners.

Sihanouk said he will leave it to Khieu Samphan of the Khmer Rouge, Son Sann of the Kampuchean People's National Liberation Front and Hun Sen of the People's Republic of Kampuchea to "obtain an honourable compromise that is indispensable for the resolution of the Kampuchean problem."

Sihanouk said his party, the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful and Cooperative Cambodia (FUNCINPEC), will unconditionally approve any compromise or agreement reached by the three factions.

Before leaving Beijing, the prince told reporters at the airport that he will attend the Jakarta peace talks with an open mind.

"I'm in favour of dialogue. I am not Mr Nyet. I am Mr Da. I'm not going to say no to anybody," AP quoted Sihanouk as saying.

The prince also said in the press release that his party will not participate in an election or a four-party coalition government in Kampuchea without an international peace-keeping force stationed there for at least five years.

He added that he would refuse to be "elevated" by foreign powers to lead the Kampuchean government without being nominated by the Kampuchean people in a secret ballot.

Sihanouk will visit Kampuchean displaced persons at Site B refugee camp on the Thai-Kampuchean border on July 2.

He will also go into Kampuchea to receive credentials from the ambassadors of Egypt, Yugoslavia, Guinea, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Mauritania.

On July 5, the prince will meet with Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila for one hour before meeting with ASEAN foreign ministers.

On the same day, a dinner will be held in his honour. ASEAN foreign ministers and delegates of the dialogue countries and other countries including China will attend the party.

ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi said yesterday ASEAN foreign ministers want to know whether Sihanouk will attend the Jakarta meeting, what a new government in Kampuchea would be like and under what conditions and his opinions about the future of his country.

"All of us regard Prince Sihanouk as a key factor in the solution of the Kampuchean problem," ACM Sitthi said.

Asked why he was confident the Kampuchean problem would be solved and Thailand's relations with neighbouring Indochinese states would return to normal in

one or two years, ACM Sitthi said his belief was based on the results of his talks with Mr Thach and the fact that he will attend the Jakarta meeting.

Mr Thach has said he will go to Jakarta, regardless of whether he attends the meeting in the first phase or later, said ACM Sitthi.

"I believe the problem will be resolved before 1990 and hope that Vietnam will be sincere in solving the problem.

"We told him we want the Kampuchean problem to be solved before the total withdrawal of Vietnamese troops," he said.

ACM Sitthi, however, said his confidence would become reality only if all parties concerned are sincere.

If they set too many conditions the attempt to solve the problem will not be successful, he said.

The first phase of the Jakarta meeting is to allow the four Khmer factions to talk.

The second phase is for the factions to meet with Vietnam, Indonesia and Laos, he said.

Mr Thach said he would try to include Thailand in the talks in the second phase, he said.

"We told him that we would send a delegation," ACM Sitthi said.

Asked if it is true that China will provide political asylum for Pol Pot, ACM Sitthi said China has denied the report.

"As far as Thailand is concerned, we will not interfere in whatever agreements they reach. This is an internal Kampuchean affair," he said.

Bangkok To Host ASEAN Conferences in July
BK2506032188 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
25 Jun 88 p 4

[Text] The 21st ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting and the ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference will be held July 4-5 at the Oriental Hotel and July 7-9 at the Royal Orchid Sheraton Hotel, the Foreign Ministry announced yesterday.

Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila, in his capacity as chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee, will preside over both meetings.

The ASEAN Foreign Ministers Meeting will review progress and activities of ASEAN member nations in political, economic and social development fields during the past year.

It will also acknowledge the results of the ASEAN Summit held in Manila last December and will formulate guidelines for ASEAN's dialogue with other countries on political matters, trade, investment and development cooperation and technological exchanges.

In the ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference, delegates from Australia, Canada, the European Community, Japan, New Zealand and the United States will hold talks with ASEAN partners to exchange opinions on matters of mutual concern.

They will also discuss the Kampuchean problem, Indochinese refugees and the creation of a zone of peace in Southeast Asia.

On economics, the two sides will discuss the protectionist policies of the developed countries, low prices of consumers products on the world market, problems over trade and agricultural products, uncertainties in currency exchange rates and international debt.

ASEAN will also be sounded out on the results of the June 19-21 meeting of the seven economic giants in Toronto, Canada.

ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi will lead chief delegates of participating countries in the ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference for an audience with His Majesty the King at Chitlada Palace on July 8.

They will also make a courtesy call on Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon at Government House.

About 200 delegates from ASEAN and dialogue countries are expected to attend the two meetings.

Reportage on Labor Unions Unrest, Rail Strike

Minister Views Railway Strike
BK2406142088 Bangkok THE NATION in English
24 Jun 88 Afternoon Edition p 1

[Text] Communications Minister Banhan Sinlapa-Acha said this morning no punitive action will be taken against rail workers involved in the ongoing strike that paralyzed train service for more than 24 hours.

"I am certain that things will return to normal in a few days," he told a news conference at the Nopphawong headquarters of the State Railway of Thailand (SRT).

As Banhan spoke, eight more passenger trains, both long and short-haul, departed Hualamphong railway station according to schedules, though carrying only few passengers. Striking workers made no attempts to disrupt them.

Another 10 trains are scheduled to leave Bangkok this afternoon.

The minister claimed that most workers belonging to the locomotive union of SRT had returned to work.

SRT last night persuaded non-striking members of the union—one of the nine unions of the state enterprise—to man the first nine trains out of Bangkok under heavy police security.

Negotiations to break the deadlock resumed this morning at the Police Department. Representing the workers was Thawi Praphai, a strike leader, who met with Hiran Rudisi, the SRT general manager.

The workers insisted on their original demand that SRT abolish the present pay and personnel structure.

"The talks may not produce any results because the Communications Ministry is not represented," said Thawi.

The negotiations were in progress at press time.

Striking workers still rallied at Bang Su and Makkasan workshop and at major rail stations upcountry, waiting for results of the talks.

The country's four major labour organizations yesterday declared their support for the striking rail workers. They are the Labour Congress of Thailand, Thai Trade Unions Congress, National Congress of Thai Labour and the National Free Labour League.

Chali Chanthawong, secretary general of LCT, said the four organizations will meet on Sunday to map out a joint stand. He said they also support striking workers at the Thailand Tobacco Monopoly [TTM] and GS Steel Co Ltd.

Banhan said he was optimistic that talks between SRT and the workers would produce "some understanding."

He said he has been keeping Premier Prem Tinsulanon informed of the situation.

Meanwhile, Chalio Vittayakhom, director of TTM, issued an order for all striking tobacco workers to return to work, promising that no punitive action will be taken against them.

Train Service Resumes

BK2506032788 Bangkok THE NATION in English
25 Jun 88 pp 1, 2

[Text] Train service resumed yesterday after a 24-hour disruption but railway workers carried on with their strike that entered its fourth day.

The workers vowed to continue striking until the State Railway of Thailand [SRT] accepts their demand to abolish the current pay and personnel structure and the privatization plan.

But the workers said they will not try to disrupt train traffic again.

Non-striking locomotive operators are manning the trains that are leaving Hualamphong station since late Thursday night. The first train that departed for Hat Yai was also guarded by policemen for fear that the striking workers would try to block it.

Twenty long-distance and suburban trains left Hualamphong yesterday, 12 in the morning and eight in the afternoon, most carrying small numbers of passengers. Only four trains arrived at the station from the provinces.

SRT officials said the scarcity of locomotives made it impossible to resume all train trips. Most locomotives, they said, are kept at Bang Su locomotive repair workshop, which are being occupied by strikers.

Mechanics raced to repair unoperational locomotives at Hualamphong under police protection yesterday to bring them back into use again.

Communications Minister Banhan Sinlapa-Acha said the SRT resumed 60 to 70 per cent service nationwide yesterday after the striking workers forced the service to ground to a complete halt on Thursday.

He said workers who returned to work yesterday would not face punitive action.

In Bangkok, about 150 striking workers gathered at Bang Su and Makkasan locomotive repair workshops and Thonburi railway station under the watchful eyes of police.

Some railwaymen in Nakhon Sawan, Songkhla, Saraburi, Nakhon Ratchasima and Phitsanulok continued to strike but did not block rails.

Striking railwaymen at Songkhla's Hat Yai railway station agreed to resume work yesterday after negotiations with provincial officials and police, according to the station's chief, Bunlua Ketkaco.

Two passenger trains left Hat Yai station for Bangkok yesterday evening.

But cargo and oil trains from the southern station still could not leave.

There was confusion at Nakhon Ratchasima Railway Station yesterday evening when about 50 strikers seized the locomotive of the Bangkok-Ubon Ratchathani train and drove it away.

"What I can say now is that the SRT problem will not escalate.

"It is the duty of the management of each state enterprise to take care of its employees and decide what steps to take in settling internal rifts.

"I have noticed in the past that problems have been left unattended in other state enterprises, causing bigger problems later.

"If they had bothered to negotiate from the very start, the situation would not have been as it is to day," Sqd Ldr [Squadron leader] Prasong said.

"Concerning the rail strike, I think the problems will not escalate. Everything is negotiable. If the workers were not facing problems, the unionist would not have protested," he said.

"Don't worry about it. I don't believe there will be any use of force by either side as long as negotiations are underway," said Sqd Ldr Prasong.

At the Hat Yai railway station yesterday, more than 300 rail workers and their families continued their strike for a second day, vowing not to call it off until the strike in Bangkok ends peacefully.

Prasat Sathiranon, leader of the local rail workers' labour union, confirmed that engine drivers will not go back to work until the unions in Bangkok at the State Railway of Thailand reach a settlement.

A train carrying 17 passengers and 30-40 policemen arrived in Hat Yai from Bangkok at about 11:30 a.m., and two trains left the station for Bangkok and Butterworth with fewer than 50 passengers on board, sources said.

The strikers did not try to stop the train, but the substitute drivers were escorted from the train by policemen.

The strikers, in an emotional show of unity, cut their fingers and drank the blood mixed with water.

Meanwhile, Maj-Gen Suthep Chandana, deputy commander of Provincial Police Region Four, said it is up to police Director-General Gen Phao Sarasin to order his men to remove the strikers from Hat Yai station.

Police, provincial officials and defence volunteers are keeping a close watch at the station to prevent the strike from turning violent, he said.

The rail strike has badly hurt vendors and tricycle drivers, as well as the SRT's hotel and ticket services.

Local businessmen have suffered from delayed shipments of goods from Malaysia as a result of the strike.

Police Put on Alert

BK2506044188 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
25 Jun 88 pp 1, 3

[Text] Police were placed on nationwide alert yesterday as 19 state enterprise labour unions announced they would stage a mass walkout in support of railway strikers on Monday

Highly-informed police sources told the BANGKOK POST last night that Police Director-General Phao Sarasin issued the "top priority," full-alert order after the State Railway of Thailand (SRT) management and rail workers failed to negotiate an end to the four-day-old strike.

Gen Phao issued the alert to his deputy police chiefs, Metropolitan Police Commissioner Lt-Gen Manat Khrutchaiyan, Border Patrol Police Commissioner Lt-Gen Wiphat Wiphulakan and Central Investigation Bureau Commissioner Lt-Gen Pratin Santiprapop.

The Crime Suppression Division, Provincial Police Zones 1-4, the Police Fire Brigade and Police Hospital have also been placed on alert, the sources added.

About 100 elite police paratroopers from Naresuan camp in Hua Hin arrived in Bangkok to guard oil depots at Bang Su station and a similar number have been put on alert, the sources said.

Gen Phao took the emergency steps because he felt the rail strike had caused the public concern and inconvenience, the sources said.

The order also mentioned strike threats by the unions of the Bangkok Mass Transit Authority, the Metropolitan Electricity Authority (MEA), the Metropolitan Waterworks Authority and the Thai Tobacco Monopoly.

The source did not know how long the alert would last, but said it was aimed at keeping law and order.

The units were ordered to plan for logistics, the source said.

The state enterprise unions planning to join Monday's strike include those at the Metropolitan Electricity Authority, Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand, Provincial Electricity Authority, Petroleum Authority of Thailand, Khuru Sapha, Port Authority of Thailand, Bangkok Mass Transit Authority, Telephone Organisation of Thailand, State Lottery Bureau, Thai Airways International, communications Authority of Thailand, National Housing Authority, Pharmaceutical Organisation, Forestry Industry Organisation and Dairy Farming Promotion Organisation.

Police Deployed at Key Points

*BK2506044388 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
25 Jun 88 pp 1, 3*

[Text] Special police units were deployed at key railway junctions and stations nationwide yesterday in a bid to restore the national train service disrupted for four days by a union strike demanding a change in the salary structure.

About 50 elite paratroopers of the Hua Hin based Border Patrol Police Naresuan Camp were moved into Bang Su station where about 200 train mechanics and drivers continued their sit-in for the fourth straight day yesterday.

Assistant Police Department chief Lt-Gen Ophat Rattanasin confirmed that more police units have been deployed to maintain peace and order at Hua Lamphong, Bangkok Noi station and key junctions such as Phachi in Ayutthaya, Kang Koi in Saraburi, Hat Yai, Uttaradit and Pak Nampho in Nakhon Sawan.

Pol Lt-Gen [Police Lieutenant-General] Ophot said several trains have returned to normal service since Thursday night after police commandos were used to escort them out of Hua Lamphong terminal which had been temporarily sealed off by striking railmen at the Bang Su workshop.

Although several passenger trains were running normally, few passengers dared to use the service yesterday out of fear for their own safety.

Pol Lt-Gen Ophat warned yesterday that policemen manning the railway stations and junctions would use force if the strikers attempted to block the trains again.

Chiang Mai railway station, closed for two days to prevent untoward incidents, resumed the sale of tickets yesterday and at least two passenger trains were released to ferry commuters to the capital.

Pol Lt-Gen Ophat said tension among the striking railmen at the Bang Su station appeared to have eased somewhat after a session of negotiations between SRT union leaders and the agency's management under the mediation of Police Chief Gen Phao Sarasin.

Leaders of the SRT labour union negotiating team were Thawi Praphai, Wirat Chunfusap and Somsak Kosaisuk, while the management negotiators were led by SRT Governor Hiran Radisi and its board member Banyong Saralam.

Thawi, who described yesterday's meeting as being held in a friendly atmosphere, said he would not call off the strike because the management had made no concessions.

Train drivers under his union's control would not return to work, but they would not stop train drivers from other railway unions from substituting, he said.

Mr Hiran said he could not say when the strike would end.

The SRT management and workers were able to reach an agreement on some points during the talks, he said.

Transport and Communications Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha told reporters that 70 percent of the train service was back to normal and a new train schedule was expected to be issued today.

Pol Gen Phao said the SRT management yesterday agreed to accept the workers' demands for consideration.

Both sides agreed to meet at 9 a.m. today to study the workers' draft for the revised salary structure to be forwarded to the new government for consideration.

Pol Gen Phao, who went to Government House to report on developments to Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon, said the strikers were sympathetic to the public and showed a willingness to end the dispute as soon as possible.

But he said the strike itself is an internal dispute between the SRT and the labour union and police cannot directly intervene.

The security forces are only responsible for maintaining law and order, he said.

"Despite the resumption of train services, the workers are still assembled at Bang Su to press for their demands," he said.

"When they will disperse undoubtedly depends on the results of intense and fruitful negotiations satisfactory to both parties," Pol Gen Phao said.

He said his first meeting with the railway union leaders was held in a cordial atmosphere.

Asked if police commandos will forcibly try to disperse the protestors, the police chief said: "We will only take drastic action if things start getting out of hand."

Meanwhile, Prime Minister's secretary-general Prasong Sunsi said the situation is gradually returning to normal.

Asked to comment how the government would deal with the situation if six other state enterprise unions join the protest as threatened, he said the strikers and the management must come to terms with the situation by themselves.

The unions plan to meet at the Royal Hotel tomorrow to decide whether they should call a general strike to press the Government to accept the rail workers' demands to revamp salary and job classifications and scrap plans to privatise the SRT.

Mr Banyat Klinsuwan, deputy secretary-general of the state enterprise labour union group, told a press conference at the head office of the Metropolitan Electricity Authority yesterday that Monday's strike may trouble the public.

"We would like to explain to the public that they may have to suffer to a certain extent.

"But all we are doing is for the convenience and good of the people, and so that the Government will pay attention to workers' problems," said Banyat.

He added: "If buses happen to stop running, it is to make the Government consider the rail workers' demands seriously."

However, he promised the mass walkout would not affect the July 2 celebrations marking His Majesty the King becoming the country's longest-reigning monarch.

Another labour leader, TTUC [Thai Trade Union Congress] president Wattana Iambamrung, warned the Government not to use force against the strikers "or we will take drastic action."

The unions issued a leaflet pledging support for the rail workers and urging the Government to resolve the dispute quickly.

They urged the Government to drop plans to privatise the SRT.

Phonphat Rangsiyo, president of the union representing workers at Defence Ministry textile mills, told the BANGKOK POST he would propose a general strike at tomorrow's meeting.

He said the two textile plants—in Kang Khoi district of Saraburi and in Phitsanulok—also face privatisation.

The meeting will be hosted by the country's four labour congresses: the Thai Trade Union Congress, Labour Congress of Thailand, National Congress of Thai Labour and National Free Unions Congress.

Informed labour sources said the congresses had set up a temporary centre at the MEA to coordinate the unions taking part in Monday's strike.

MEA president Ekkachai Ekhamkamon told the press yesterday the walkout by about 6,000 workers on Monday would not affect water supplies, but would disrupt repairs of water pipes and collection of water bills.

He said the action was not related to the rail strike.

Labour sources, however, said people would face water shortages if the strike lasts more than two days.

Also yesterday, a group calling itself the "State Enterprise Labour Protection Group" went to Government House to submit a letter to Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon.

The letter demanded the scrapping of state enterprise privatisation plans, the cancellation of all privatisation contracts at enterprises, worker participation in management, standardised fringe benefits, limited tenure for executives and "action against injustice" at the enterprises.

The group, comprising Wit Borisutthikun and Wanchai Phromma—reportedly a member of the Revolutionary Council, was refused a meeting with the Premier.

They withdrew the letter and left after Wit threatened the Government with strong repercussions "for ignoring their call".

Defense Minister Voices Concern

BK2506074088 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai
0530 GMT 25 Jun 88

[Text] Answering reporters' questions this morning on the current railway strike, Defense Minister Air Chief Marshal Phaniang Kantarat said that he was concerned with this issue and was afraid that it will cause hardships for the people. Asked whether the Armed Forces have prepared to help end the incident or not, he said that no action has been taken because it is the responsibility of the government agencies concerned to solve the problem. However, the Armed Forces will cooperate with the agencies concerned if asked in order to end the problems and confusion as soon as possible because the ongoing railway strike may spread into other sectors which will cause hardships for the people.

Asked whether the Armed Forces have been requested for help, he said that so far there has been no such request. However, the Armed Forces are ready to help at any time if there is a request.

Editorial Views Rail Strike

BK2406143588 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
23 Jun 88 p 4

[Editorial: "Rail Strikers Are Not Above the Law"]

[Text] Workers' power can be constructive or destructive, depending on how it is used or manipulated.

The blockade of tracks at Hualamphong station by a handful of railway workers on Tuesday, which has intensified into a large-scale work stoppage involving hundreds of others, demonstrates how workers' power can be utilised in a destructive manner that benefits no one.

All long-haul train services at Hualamphong were cancelled, though some short-haul trains continued to operate. The damage inflicted on the State Railway of Thailand [SRT] will almost certainly, by now, have exceeded the 10 million baht estimate given by SRT management. That of course does not include all the hardship and inconvenience experienced by the thousands who rely on rail services. Nor the tragic death of a poor passenger from Buri Ram who was run over by a taxi.

Mrs Ko Chalat would not have met her tragic death before dawn yesterday if she and the other passengers from Ubon Ratchathani had been allowed to ride the train to their destination at Hualamphong. Instead, they were told to leave the train at Bang Khen station.

One might cite karma and argue that she would have died anyway even without leaving the train because her destiny was already marked. But anyone with a conscience and fairness in his or her heart would have to accept that the unfortunate woman's death could be partially blamed on the rail protest.

Mrs Ko might be just an insignificant figure whose death could well fail to generate any sense of moral responsibility among the protesters. After all, we are dealing with acts of sheer selfishness and a total lack of social responsibility.

Disruption of service, either by blockade or by work stoppage, is illegal because rail workers are bound by law to serve the public. But this apparently was not a concern for leaders of five SRT unions, who clearly believe they are justified in putting their own interests before those of the public and the country.

It is a pity that the railway unionists, who have always allied themselves with members of the public, chose to abandon negotiations in favour of an irresponsible act of intimidation.

The unionists have three demands: dismantle the present position classification structure, replace the current salary structure with one they proposed and revoke the railway's privatisation scheme.

While the protesters deserve strong denunciation, the way police handled the Hualamphong incident is to be highly commended. Officers exercised restraint and avoided violence. There were no provocative arrests.

However, restraint must have a limit, at least when the public interest is at stake. The law was written to be obeyed, for the sake of peace and order. It cannot be ignored with impunity.

Editorial Notes Union Unrest

BK2406142588 Bangkok *THE NATION* in English
23 Jun 88 p 8

[Editorial: "Good News and Bad News About Becoming a NIC"]

[Text] The cover story of *NEWSWEEK* this week announces its discovery of Thailand as "Asia's newest economic power". Premier Prem Tinsulanon is extremely pleased with it. His caretaker Cabinet also rejoiced at the news. And Radio Thailand dutifully spreads the news of Thailand becoming a newly industrializing country (NIC) and moving fast on "an enviable track toward prosperity".

The "good news", however, came at a time when the country is bogged down in what could be the worst labour unrest in many years.

The protesting rail workers were dissatisfied with the slow-moving administration of the State Railway of Thailand [SRT] are now demanding direct negotiations with authorities of the Finance and Communications ministries. [sentence as published]

Workers at the Thailand Tobacco Monopoly deserted their jobs yesterday to attend an "extraordinary meeting" of their union. They will continue their meeting, which is practically a lawful work stoppage, today to press for their demands, which include a revision of the Cabinet's decision to permit a private investor to build and operate a cigarette plant.

Union leaders at the Metropolitan Water Works plan to start a rally today to protest the government's privatization of financially-ailing state enterprises. Their colleagues at the Port Authority of Thailand and the Metropolitan Electricity Authority are studying the situation before making any move.

Leaders of 29 labour unions in state enterprises agreed last night to give the government three days to solve, first of all, the labour dispute at the SRT. If no solution is found before the deadline, they intend to begin a work slow-down protest nationwide.

The unions will also press on their demands for the government to scrap its privatization policy and to enforce the labour relations laws, especially the one concerning the payment of minimum wages.

We think it will be a grave mistake if the government remains complacent and congratulate one another in Cabinet meetings for the reported rapid economic growth rate, which this year is expected to reach 9 percent.

We don't think any government leader could take pride in the fast expanding Thai economy when a majority of Thai working people is paid less than the minimum wages, which in Bangkok is only 73 baht for a full-day of work of at least eight long hours—or only 36 (US) cents an hour.

Neither should the government enjoy the "good news" about Thailand becoming a NIC, much less claim credit for it, while numerous labour unions, including those of its own state enterprises, are seething with discontent because their grievances have largely been ignored.

Editorial Sees 'Conspiracy'

BK2506025188 Bangkok *THE NATION* in English
25 Jun 88 p 10

[Editorial: "A Conspiracy behind the Current Labour Unrest?"]

[Text] The government seems to suspect an anti-government conspiracy behind the current rash of labour unrest.

But why would anyone want to stir up trouble and undermine, or topple, the current caretaker administration of Premier Prem Tinsulanonda?

Most of the protesting workers couldn't care less who will be the next premier. Their demands are concerned mostly with their income and working conditions. Perhaps, the only evidence of their opposition to the government, or to Premier Prem, is their outcries against the privatization policy, which is a hallmark in bureaucratic development of the Prem administration.

The government should be able to distinguish between a co-ordinated movement of labour unions to maximize their bargaining power and a conspiracy against the government.

Labour leaders in state enterprises have long planned to step up their campaign against selling in any form parts of operations of financially-ailing state enterprises to the private sector. At first they planned to launch their campaign on last May Day. But they postponed it in the wake of rising political tensions after the House dissolution on April 29.

The strikes at the State Railway of Thailand [SRT] and the Thailand Tobacco Monopoly [TTM] were related only in that union leaders of both state enterprises are protesting the privatization policy. Protesters at the SRT dislike leasing out rail routes to private operators. And protesters at the TTM object to permitting a private investor to build a cigarette plant in the north, for doing so will cut into TTM's highly lucrative business.

Nineteen unions of state enterprises have threatened to start a slow-down protest on Monday if the labour dispute at the SRT is not resolved by tomorrow. They

are just showing their "solidarity" so that when it is their turn to air their grievances, their fellow union leaders would sympathize with them.

Some of the union leaders are newcomers who need to establish a reputation of strong leadership. Thus, they tend to be less flexible and more adamant in pressing for their demands. Other unions, with less pressing demands but threaten to call a work stoppage anyway, are simply taking advantage of the situation by striking while the iron is hot. [sentence as published].

In the 1970s, the government conveniently blamed communist agitators for fanning up labour unrest. Since the outlawed Communist Party of Thailand has virtually been wiped out in the early 1980s, who would the government blame for the current labour unrest now?

The anti-Prem political parties do not have much connection with any labour unions. They are busy campaigning in the general election.

Several army officers are known to have maintained close ties with labour leaders. But Army Commander in Chief General Chawalit Yongchaiyut has often emphasized that he and the Army want to see an orderly general election held as scheduled. There seems to be no valid reason for him or anyone else in the Army to disrupt the election or upset Premier Prem.

So, if there is a conspiracy, who is behind it?

Railway Strike Ends

BK2606142688 Bangkok *Army Television Channel 5*
in Thai 1300 GMT 26 Jun 88

[Excerpt] The strike by the State Railway of Thailand's labor union, which started on 21 June, has finally ended today. Protesting workers demanded that the State Railway of Thailand abolish the present pay and personnel structure, and stop leasing rail routes to private operators.

The strike was called off as of 1800 today after a joint meeting of the labor union and authorities at the Police Department this morning. The panel, presided over by Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Finance Ministry Sunthon Sathianthai, studied the 14 points demanded by the labor union until 1200. It spent the afternoon recording the agreement details until 1700. Governor of the State Railway of Thailand Hiran Radisi then summed up the major points in the agreement reached by the labor union and the State Railway of Thailand. [passage omitted]

140 Unions Threaten Strikes

BK2706005188 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
27 Jun 88 pp 1, 3

[Text] As the six-day strike at the State Railway of Thailand [SRT] ended yesterday, more than 140 labour unions threatened to hold a general strike if the government fails to respond to their demands by tomorrow.

A union leader at the Metropolitan Waterworks Authority [MWA] said yesterday it will go ahead with a work slowdown today to press for scrapping of plans for a private company to provide water for factories in Samut Prakan.

Port Authority of Thailand unions are also expected to start slowing down today, reportedly over the cranes issue.

Sources said cargo handling at the port would be partially disrupted and transport of goods from the port by the Express Transport Organisation would also be affected.

Representatives of the country's four powerful labour organisations—the Labour Congress of Thailand (LCT), the Thai Trade Union Congress (TTUC), the National Free Unions of Congress (NFUC) and the National Congress of Free Labour (NCTL)—are to submit an open letter to Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon at Government House this morning.

The letter will demand that the government:

- Scrap privatisation schemes for all state enterprises.
- Close a loophole in the labour law that allows employers to hire workers continuously on short-term contracts.
- Speed up promulgation of the social security law.
- Increase penalties against violators of labour laws.
- Force the GS Steel and Winner Textile companies to reinstate laidoff workers.

The unions will also send a telex to secretary-general V.S. Mathur of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions today seeking support for their cause.

"If we do not receive a satisfactory reply to our demands by tomorrow, we will walk off our jobs until the demands are met," said Thanong Phoan of the Labour Congress of Thailand.

"We have to be tough this time even though it means the public may be affected," added NCTL leader At Si-at.

He said the Bangkok Mass Transit Authority might join the walkout by giving commuters free rides without collecting bus fares.

About 200 members from over 140 state and private enterprise unions associated with the four congresses met for three hours yesterday afternoon at the Royal Hotel.

The meeting was originally called to give support to the railway strikers. But resolution of the rail strike shifted the meeting's emphasis to other issues.

Emerging from talks between SRT management and unionists at the Police Department, railway strike leader Thawi Praphai hailed Police director-general Pow Sarasin and other parties for their help in resolving the dispute.

He also apologised to the public for inconvenience during the six-day walkout.

Mr Thawi said he hoped all the workers' demands would be treated fairly by management and denied the strike had been politically motivated.

SRT governor Hiran Radiri told reporters at the SRT head office yesterday afternoon that the strikers had agreed to return to work at 6 p.m. He also gave an assurance that no legal action or other forms of discipline would be imposed against the strikers.

On the privatisation issue, the governor said management and the unions agreed that contracts for the private sector to operate routes would not be renewed.

Only three routes—Bangkok-Phitsanulok, Bangkok-Surin and Bangkok-Khon Kaen—have been leased to private companies.

Privatisation of hotel and canteen services on train routes will not be covered by the agreement reached yesterday, Mr Hirun said.

Regarding the strikers' call for position classification and salary structure changes, the governor said the two sides agreed to review the issue before October 1.

Mr Hiran maintained that the SRT had no authority to make decisions on the workers' demands, saying they have to be referred to the Ministry of Finance for finalisation.

The governor said he was optimistic that future talks would lead to a long-term solution to problems within the state railway.

He said an exact figure of damages caused by the strike had not been tallied yet, although earlier estimates placed losses at approximately 5 million baht per day.

As soon as the strike ended, four long-haul trains left Hualamphong station on schedule yesterday. The Bangkok-Chiang Mai train left at 3.45 p.m.; Bangkok-Hat Yai at 4 p.m.; Bangkok-Ubon Ratchathani at 6.45 p.m.; and Bangkok-Nong Khai at 7 p.m.

Labour sources said the strikers did not receive satisfaction on any of their three major demands. The strike leaders ended up softening their stance, the sources out.

Despite the "break-through" at the SRT, MWA union leader Ekkachai Ekhankamon announced yesterday that his union would go ahead with a work slowdown today as planned "because the problem has been left unresolved for a long time".

"During the slowdown, our bill collectors will not collect bills. Our mechanics will not repair damaged or leaking pipes. They will not install pipes or meters," said Mr Ekkachai.

But he said the water supply would not be affected.

Prem Alleges Discovery of 'Coup'
*BK2706002588 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
27 Jun 88 pp 1, 3*

[Text] Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon has ordered the Director-General of the Police Department to "take firm action" to stop strikes threatened by state enterprise and public utility unions.

The railway strike ended at 6 p.m. yesterday after the strikers learned of the order, without the railway authorities acceding to their wage and other demands but with an understanding that both parties hold discussions on the matter.

In response to the order to "enforce law and order," Police General Phao Sarasin will arrest ringleaders and others still on strike today.

He made preparations yesterday for police to go to Khlong Toei port at 6 a.m. today to prevent port labourers, who had a meeting scheduled for 7 a.m., doing anything to obstruct operations in the port area.

Meanwhile, according to authoritative sources, General Prem knows the identities of two army colonels who joined with some Marxist-Leninists in instigating the railway strike and in attempting to get other unions to participate in a general strike this week.

The presence of these two colonels gave an impression to the strikers they were getting a "green light" to go ahead and, according to government intelligence, cause disruption supposedly intended to precipitate conditions appropriate for a military coup d'etat.

However, top military officers have denied any involvement.

What action will be taken against the two colonels will be decided later in consultation with the top brass.

As to the purposes of the strike, sources said intelligence reports showed the plan was to make a coup attempt possible and have the July 24 general election cancelled, with a new constitution being drafted for the country.

Learning of these objectives, according to the sources, General Prem expressed his determination to have the election take place and to have any amendment to the Constitution that is proposed in the future conducted "strictly in accordance with the rules set by the Constitution."

Another aim of those who inspired the strike was to "make it impossible for General Prem to return as Prime Minister," especially in the midst of strong indications that after the elections he would be the one selected by a parliamentary majority to form a new government, the sources said.

The "Stop Prem" campaign, which is not limited to the instigation of strikes, is being intensified by anti-Prem politicians, particularly as a result of international recognition of Thailand's economic achievements under the present Prem government and, as a follow-up to his meeting with the Soviet Union's Communist Party Chairman Mikhail Gorbachev and policy refinements and a potential breakthrough on the Kampuchea problem.

The sources said the Prime Minister "is keeping himself out of the campaign and is enjoying a period of relaxation," but he is determined that "nothing must disrupt the election which must be kept fair and clean."

The sources reported that official vigilance had been maintained over activities of certain Marxist-Leninists and the connections they had been trying to make with some members of the military.

General Prem, the sources said, "is well aware of all these movements."

Vietnam

Spokesman Rejects Proposed Talks With Sihanouk
*BK2706113588 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1115 GMT 27 Jun 88*

[Text] Answering an interview by VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY about a statement by the so-called CGDK requesting Vietnam to hold talks with Prince Sihanouk and the delegates of the aforesaid organization, the SRV Foreign Ministry spokesman said:

The SRV Government only recognizes the PRK. Demanding that Vietnam hold talks with Prince Sihanouk or the so-called tripartite coalition—the PRK's opposition forces—falls in with the plot to eliminate the PRK that they have not been able to achieve by force over the past 9 years.

Vietnam resolutely rejects this irrational proposal. This plot is further aimed at undermining the dialogue between Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk and the two-phase cocktail party that has been agreed upon with Vietnam and Indonesia and will be held in Jakarta in late July.

The SRV once again asserts its unswerving stand in recognizing only the PRK as the legal state of the Cambodian people and that the internal affairs of Cambodia must be settled by the Cambodian people.

Further Reportage on National Assembly Session

25 June Proceedings

*BK2606162288 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1100 GMT 26 Jun 88*

[Report by radio correspondent Kim Cuc on the Third Session of the Eighth National Assembly in Hanoi on the afternoon of 25 June]

[Text] Dear friends: Following group discussions of the Council of Ministers' report on the socioeconomic situation in the first 6 months of 1988 and on principal measures to encourage fulfillment of the 1988 state plan, yesterday afternoon, 25 June, national deputies attending the Third Session of the Eighth National Assembly met at the conference hall to hear members of the Council of Ministers answer their questions.

Comrade Nguyen Cong Tan, minister of agriculture and food industry; Comrade Phan Van Tiem, head of the State Price Commission; Comrade Lu Minh Chau, director general of the Vietnam State Bank; Comrade Doan Duy Thanh, minister of external economic relations; Comrade Bui Danh Luu, minister of communication and transportation; and Comrade Hoang Quy, minister of finance, answered the deputies' questions about issues related to their ministries and sectors.

Answering the National Assembly deputies' questions on grain demand and agricultural production, Minister Nguyen Cong Tan pointed out serious difficulties rising between grain supply and demand in our country, especially localities in the north. He said: We had to transport 260,000 metric tons of rice from the south to the north. However, the northern provinces are still suffering a serious food shortage.

Commenting on the causes behind this situation, the Comrade Minister of Agriculture and Food Industry said: Due to a grievous crop failure in the 1987 winter-spring crop season, peasants suffered a food shortage.

Later, despite a relatively good harvest in the 10th-month, peasants were compelled to make up for shortfalls in the winter-spring crop season. Therefore, only a small grain reserve was set up in the countryside. This led to a food shortage in the northern localities.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, as well as the Council of Ministers Standing Committee, have provided guidance for the adoption of various measures to relieve the food shortage. However, due to an inaccurate estimate of the grain deficit during the last months of 1987 and in early 1988—both in the state sector and among the people—the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry and the Council of Ministers failed to take the initiative in adopting special policies and measures to promptly prevent or limit the consequences.

In answering the National Assembly deputies' questions yesterday afternoon, after briefing them on the difficult grain situation, the Comrade Minister of Agriculture and Food Industry briefed the National Assembly deputies on the following measures to solve the grain problem in the last 6 months:

[Begin Nguyen Cong Tan recording] It is difficult to present a comprehensive view on measures to solve the grain problem for the entire country in general and the north in particular. Therefore, we would like to report on the following three major directions:

First, continue to accelerate summer-fall crop and 10th-month crop production throughout the country and winter crop production in the north, striving to ensure success in production to obtain an additional source of grain.

Second, provide guidance for grain procurement in the 5th-month spring crop season in the north to achieve the general planned norm that has been assigned to all provinces and cities by the central government, while stepping up grain procurement in the summer-fall crop season in the south and actively transporting grain from the south to the north in order to ensure a good source of [word indistinct].

Third, take the initiative in creating an additional source of imported grain to ensure a balance each year.

Faced with serious difficulties concerning grain in our country, especially the northern provinces, through repeated discussions the Council of Ministers Standing Committee has decided on a major policy—that is, in the next few years, even if guidance and investment continue to be concentrated on grain production in the country to quickly increase its output, we will still have to seek a source of foreign currency for the import of grain. This is aimed at ensuring a stable, balanced source of grain in case of unforeseen circumstances concerning grain production in the country. If grain production in the country is carried out under favorable conditions, this quantity

of grain can be put into the national reserve. Efforts should also be made to gradually use this grain reserve to help stabilize the country's socioeconomic situation. [end recording]

If we have encountered difficulties in grain demand and agricultural production in the past 6 months, then the price, monetary, and financial issues have also caused great concern to the party and state as well as our entire society. While answering the National Assembly deputies' questions yesterday afternoon, Comrade Phan Van Tiem, head of the State Price Commission, disclosed the actual situation of prices during the first months of 1988.

It can be said that chaotic price increase on the market in the past months have made production and the people's livelihood even more difficult. The unexpected increases in the prices of grain and food have caused the prices of other materials and goods to increase at a fast rate. The price of paddy has increased rapidly, from 180 dong per kg to 400 dong at present. The price of rice has increased from 150 dong per kg to 500-700. In a number of mountainous provinces, the price of rice has, at times, even increased to as much as 800 dong per kilogram. In Hanoi, the price of pork increased from 900 dong per kilogram in January 1988 to 4,500 dong at present. State prices have increased faster than those of the free market.

In answering the national deputies' questions, the comrade head of the State Price Commission said: The urgent tasks for the last 6 months of 1988 involve the need to reduce the speed of price increases, especially stabilizing the price of grain. Unless we stabilize the price of grain, we cannot stabilize the price of other materials and goods.

Dear friends, everybody knows that changes in prices will gravely affect the state budget. With continuous changes in prices, the state and central government, as well as all sectors and localities and establishments, will encounter great difficulty in arranging and calculating plans.

Comrade Lu Minh Chau, director general of the Vietnam State Bank, answered a number of questions raised by National Assembly delegates—namely, scarcity of cash, granting of liquid assets in accordance with Council of Ministers Decision No 217, and differences between credit services in the north and south.

Dealing with the current cash flow, Comrade Lu Minh Chau said we are facing a scarcity of cash that is becoming more and more serious with each passing day. The amount of cash in circulation is too large compared with the production growth rate as proved by the fact that the amount recorded in a given year is three times more than that in the previous year. Price hikes are the main culprit. Comrade Lu Minh Chau spoke about the following measures for getting more cash:

[Begin Lu Minh Chau recording] To help cope with this scarcity of cash, we cannot continue to blindly put more money into circulation. Instead, very active, uniform measures must be taken by all sectors concerned.

As far as this issue is concerned, as we have mentioned many times, it is necessary to immediately curb the current unstoppable price hikes—not by issuing orders but by controlling the sources of some materials and goods through state regulations, making the state, not the open market, the sole distributor. Only by doing so can we control the prices of these materials and goods and eventually, the overall pricing system.

Let me give you an example with the case of grain. There is no way for us to control the price of grain through orders because the truth is that peasants have to pay high prices for fertilizers, insecticides, and fuel supplied by the open market. If we want to buy grain at reasonable prices, then we should sell fertilizers, fuel, and insecticides to peasants at state-regulated prices. It comes naturally that no one can increase the price of grain under those circumstances.

That is why what we should do now is try by all means to control and set the price of what we have in hand. This has already been secured in a recently promulgated regulation. If we want to reach this objective, then each and every one of us must satisfactorily implement this regulation. [end recording]

While discussing the Council of Ministers' report on the socioeconomic situation in the first 6 months of 1988, the National Assembly delegates raised questions that need to be answered about a balanced grain supply, food shortages and starvation, prices, and monetary and financial issues. Prompted by a very high sense of duty and responsibility, the National Assembly delegates also raised questions about export-import and communications and transportation issues. It can be said that since these matters are also very urgent national issues, we all should fully understand them and take measures to promptly tackle them.

Minister of Foreign Economic Relations Doan Duy Thanh answered questions raised by delegates about the competition between state organizations and various localities in purchasing and buying export products, the failure to correctly handle the incident of a number of localities being granted export permits even though they do not have any export products, and so forth.

The minister of communication and transportation answered questions about the responsibility of the communications and transportation sector for the deterioration of its material facilities, especially irregularities in the shipment of grain from the south to the north.

As far as this issue is concerned, after dealing with the efforts of the sector's cadres, workers, and civil servants to overcome difficulties in shipping grain from the southern provinces to the north to help alleviate food shortages and starvation, Comrade Bui Doanh Luu said:

[Begin Bui Danh Luu recording] Our sector has continued to meet the requirements of shipping rice from the south to the north. Sufficient means have been put into use. Of course, we have had problems now and then. Sometimes, we had rice but no shipping facilities and vice versa. These are problems we have experienced while implementing our task.

The sector has displayed a number of shortcomings as follows: First, the sector has not organized its transportation forces in a scientific manner nor has it made full use of its limited means of transportation. There has been a lot of waiting time at storage areas and ports due to slow and prolonged loading and unloading activities. The sector's economic and technical plan norms have been low. All economic and technical norms fulfilled by the central level are lower when compared with those achieved by the local level. Likewise, all economic and technical norms completed by state-operated sectors are lower than those fulfilled by cooperatives and the private sector.

No harmonious cooperation has yet been achieved in grain collection and delivery. Since weighing, measuring, bagging, and packaging have not been satisfactorily carried out by our sector and the producers themselves, major losses and damages still prevail.

The above-mentioned situation calls for personal efforts by the communications and transportation sector as well as the support of all state organs. Nevertheless, since communications and transportation has a widespread and profound social character, we would like to ask all National Assembly delegates and localities to provide the sector with active assistance so it can organize, motivate, and help the masses heighten their sense of responsibility for the development and protection of communications and transportation forces.

As for ourselves, we of the communication and transportation sector pledge to take even more effective and more active measures to satisfactorily support socioeconomic development and national security and defense. [end recording]

Dear friends, it is difficult to include in this report all the Council of Ministers members' answers to the issues brought up by the National Assembly deputies. Faced with difficulties in the present socioeconomic situation, the issues set forth for clarification by the National

Assembly deputies reflect a high sense of responsibility toward the current situation in the country by those representing the people's feeling and will.

Members of the Council of Ministers scrupulously and completely answered all questions raised by the National Assembly deputies. They also realized shortcomings in their operations during the recent past and, on that basis, advanced concrete measures aimed at solving all difficult issues in the days ahead.

We hope that with the acknowledgement of shortcomings that were pointed out in a relatively accurate manner, measures will be enforced by the party and state and all ministries and sectors to solve and iron out all socioeconomic difficulties to gradually stabilize the present situation.

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["Communique No 3 of the Third Session of the Eighth National Assembly"]

[Text] On the morning of 25 June 1988, National Assembly deputies continued their group discussions on legislation and supervision work for the first 6 months of 1988.

In the afternoon, the National Assembly met in plenary session at the conference hall to hear members of the Council of Ministers answer the National Assembly deputies' questions.

1. Comrade Nguyen Cong Tan, minister of agriculture and food industry, answered questions on grain demand and agricultural production.
2. Comrade Phan Van Tiem, head of the State Price Commission, answered questions on the price issue.
3. Comrade Lu Minh Chau, director general of the State Bank, answered questions on the credit and monetary issue.
4. Comrade Doan Duy Thanh, minister of external economic relations, answered questions about external economic relations.
5. Comrade Bui Danh Luu, minister of communications and transportation, answered questions about communications and transportation.
6. Comrade Hoang Quy, minister of finance, answered questions about financial work and the state budget for 1988.

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